

ADMISSIONS POLICY

St George's Ascot provides an ambitious, connected, relevant and future-facing education, tailored for girls, to realise their potential both at school and in fulfilling adult lives

Admissions Events

Deciding on the right school for your daughter is of the utmost importance, and at St George's we believe that a personal visit to the School is invaluable. The options for visiting are as follows:

a. **Open Mornings and Private Visits:**

Parents and prospective pupils are most welcome to visit and tour St George's on an Open Morning and these are hosted several times each term. Each Open Morning has a limited number of spaces to allow for a personal and engaged approach, reflecting the nature of the School. This is normally the best way to visit St George's as a prospective family for the first time. Alternatively parents have the option to book an individual private visit on a mutually convenient date.

Such visits usually involve a meeting with the Head, one of the Deputy Heads, the Head of Sixth Form or the Director of Admissions and a tour of the School. The tour is usually guided by older pupils who are encouraged to talk directly to the candidate, and the family will be given key admissions information.

For parents who are unable to visit in person, such as those living overseas, we host a termly virtual International Open Morning or invite families to join a virtual private meeting initially with the Director of Admissions, but later if required with the Head, one of the Deputy Heads, or the Head of Sixth Form via video conferencing.

b. **Boarding Taster nights:**

The very best way for prospective pupils to really discover what boarding is like at St George's is to join us on one of our termly boarding taster nights. As well as taking part in fun activities, girls will have the chance to have supper, meet the boarding staff and mix with our current boarders. These take place on one Friday evening each term.

c. **Education Taster Days:**

St George's holds a series of optional Education Taster Days, with one per term. These events aim to give registered prospective pupils a chance to meet some of the St George's staff and supplement their learning with some exciting extension work. These days are normally built around a theme and although are complementary to the curriculum in that they build on the foundations of reading, writing, mathematical concepts or visual representation, they are designed to foster an interest in a subject or topic above those taught on a day to day basis. Registered prospective pupils are invited by email to come and join us, for example, to a Science, Art, English, Modern Languages, Computer Science or Cookery day when they are in Years 5, 6 and 7. These take place on one Saturday each term (often the morning after the boarding taster night, so the two may be combined if desired).

Taster events at St George's are usually for registered candidates, however on occasion there may be space to accommodate a prospective pupil who is not registered.

d. Future Georgian Days:

Every Year 6 pupil registered for 11+ (Year 7) or 13+ deferred (Year 9) entry will be invited to one of our 'Future Georgian' Taster Days in the September preceding their year of entry. Not only does this day give prospective pupils an opportunity to experience some of the teaching and activities here at St George's, it also provides an opportunity to meet staff members and other girls who will be in their year group and to start making friends.

Following registration, girls joining all other year groups may come for a taster day at a mutually convenient time.

e. Other Events:

Throughout the school year, St George's aims to provide further touchpoints for prospective families to be introduced to the School community. A Sixth Form Information Evening is held in early September for prospective Sixth Form pupils in Year 10 or 11; a "Keeping in Touch" day is arranged for deferred candidates who have accepted places, usually in the Spring term of the year preceding entry; invitations are also extended to families for musical and dramatic performances, and a celebratory tea is held in February for those Year 6 pupils who have been offered a place for the following September.

Further information about, and dates of, forthcoming Open Mornings and taster events can be found on the School website.

Registration

Registration must take place before the Admissions procedure begins. We recommend that parents register as early as possible to enable their daughters to enjoy maximum exposure to all invitations and events leading up to the Entrance Assessment. The School maintains one registration list per Year Group, split into day, tailored boarding and full boarding. For UK girls joining at 11+ and 13+, this is by way of an Assessment Day which takes place in the November prior to entry. Girls may also choose to sit an 11+ assessment two years prior to entry for a 13+ deferred entry place.

Registration Forms can be found on our website. There is a non-refundable registration fee of £240 (including VAT). These fees are reviewed annually.

Entrance Assessments

At St George's, girls traditionally enter at 11+, 13+ and 16+, although we also welcome registrations for 12+ and 14+ entry, if space allows. We value every girl's individuality, spirit and character. There's no such thing as a typical St George's girl. We assess each candidate holistically to discover more about them, considering their wider potential rather than just their knowledge.

11+: Our assessment for entry to St George's is held at the end of November. Candidates sit a combined Maths and English paper (one hour) which is set and marked by the School, as well as an online CEM (Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring) test consisting of Maths, English, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning (one hour). During the day, girls are interviewed (in pairs) by the Head, or one of the Deputy Heads. Each girl will be asked to think about a topic for conversation to act as an icebreaker for an informal discussion. Some girls may choose to bring a small prop (photograph, book, medal, souvenir or artefact) to aid discussion. A transfer report is also requested from applicants' feeder schools.

12+: Our assessment for entry to St George's is held in mid-November. Candidates sit a Maths paper (one hour) and English paper (one hour) which is set and marked by the School, as well as an online CEM test consisting of Maths, English, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning (one hour). Girls are interviewed by the Head, or one of the Deputy Heads. Each girl will be asked to think about a topic for conversation to act as an icebreaker for an informal discussion. Some girls may choose to bring a small prop (photograph, book, medal, souvenir or artefact) to aid discussion. A transfer report is also requested from applicants' feeder schools.

Candidates may sit an 11+, or 12+ assessment for a 13+ deferred entry place. Girls who accept deferred entry places will be invited to a 'Keeping In Touch Day' prior to entry as well as other key events such as school productions.

13+: Exams for Year 9 entry consist of English, Maths, Science and CEM. These exams are held in the November preceding entry. Candidates are also interviewed by the Head or one of the Deputy Heads. Each girl prepares a topic for discussion on the topic of her choice. Some girls choose to bring a small prop (photograph, book, medal, souvenir or artefact) to aid discussion. A transfer report is also requested from applicants' feeder schools.

14+: Exams for Year 10 entry consist of English, Maths, and Science. As we do not have a dedicated 14+ intake, these entrance assessments are arranged on a tailored ad hoc basis as demand arises. Candidates are also interviewed by the Head or one of the Deputy Heads and she will discuss her GCSE options at interview. A transfer report is also requested from applicants' feeder schools.

16+ (Sixth Form): St George's welcomes applications from candidates wishing to join the School for the broad Sixth Form opportunities and A level study. Once registered, girls will be invited for an interview with the Head of Sixth Form or another senior member of staff. Conditional offers are made based on predicted (i)GCSE results or equivalent, and a reference from the current school.

Any offer of a place will be contingent on meeting our minimum admission criteria of achieving at least six grades 9-4. Most A Level subjects require a grade 6 at GCSE in order to pursue these at A Level, however some subjects have different criteria and detailed information about this is in the annual A Level Options booklet shared in the September of the year before entry.

Overseas pupils usually require sponsorship for a child student visa; they must have a confirmed offer in order to receive a CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies) from the School, and so will be asked to sit 16+ papers in the subjects they are hoping to study for A level. If English is not the applicant's first language, she will be asked to sit a written EAL paper. These exams can be invigilated at the applicant's current school, the local British Council Office, with a trusted educational agent, or at St George's. Girls will also be required to attend an interview virtually or at St George's before an offer can be made. A School reference, a copy of her passport, reports and other relevant information will be requested at the registration stage.

Current School References and Reports:

A reference from every candidate's current school is also requested and checks undertaken to ensure fees at the current school have been paid. Checks will also be undertaken with reference to the UK Government's sanctions lists.

Waiting List:

In the event that a Year Group is over subscribed, parents may be offered a waiting list place.

Offer of Places:

The offer of a place is accompanied by an acceptance form, and the School's terms and conditions (also available on request from the Director of Admissions). The acceptance form must be filled in, and signed by both parents (unless there is a good reason e.g. a court order), and returned to signify acceptance of the place. 11+ places should be accepted by the set date at the beginning of March of the year of entry. All parents will be required to pay a deposit to secure the place, the amount of which is subject to annual review. The deposit is refundable (less any remaining incurred expenses when the pupil leaves St George's).

Equal Opportunities and the Admissions Process

Principle: St George's is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's race, ethnicity, political opinions, religion, sexual orientation, health or social background. The School will treat every application for a place at the School in a fair and open-minded way. For further information, please refer to our Equal Opportunities Policy.

Aim: Our aim is to encourage applications from candidates with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for later life.

Selection: St George's School is an academically selective school. Our selection process is designed to identify pupils who are able to cope with the curriculum, who will benefit from our balanced and well-rounded education and make a positive contribution towards the life of the School. We welcome applications from siblings of pupils already in the School and daughters of alumnae.

Sibling Policy: Many siblings join us at St George's. However, admission is not automatic, and there may be occasions where we judge that a sibling is likely to thrive better in a different academic environment.

Bursaries: A number of bursaries are offered in order to make it possible for some girls who meet the admission and bursary criteria to attend the School. Applications should be made direct to the Bursar and in the year preceding entry. The deadline for applications is mid-October; applications submitted after this date will not usually be considered.

Disabilities and Special Educational Needs (SEN): We do not discriminate in any way regarding entry. We welcome pupils with SEN, providing that our Learning Support Department can reasonably offer them the support that they require. We welcome pupils with health issues, and are happy to make reasonable adjustments, provided that our site can cope with them. Information regarding how we support such pupils in the Admissions process may be found in our Accessibility Policy on the School website.

Religion: St George's is a school in the tradition of the Church of England, but we do not select for entry on the basis of religious belief, and we offer the opportunity for other religions to practise their own faiths. However, parents should be aware that there is a community Chapel gathering for the whole School usually once a week, and that all pupils are expected to attend morning assemblies, and special services such as the Carol Service on the last day of the Autumn Term.

Data Protection: St George's takes its responsibilities for personal data very seriously and has a policy in place to ensure compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 incorporating the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Further information about the Admissions process can be found on the School website.