

Admissions Policy

Next review date: March 2026

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We aim to provide a full boarding experience where pupils are able to be happy, successful and secure within our academic, cultural and pastoral environment. Our admissions procedure is designed to identify pupils who are able to benefit from our distinctive combination of intellectual tone of high culture and outstanding pastoral care. Every pupil, prior to admission, is interviewed at length as part of the assessment process. This is unique amongst boarding schools (and perhaps all schools).

Winchester College is an academically selective school. Full details of selection and admissions can be found on the Admissions section of our website. We encourage enthusiasm in our pupils for the full spectrum of what we have to offer across a diverse range of other activities (please see our website). We look for pupils who are prepared to make the most of the opportunities whilst they are with us. Scholarships, Exhibitions and Awards are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. At Winchester College we offer:

- Academic Scholarships and Exhibitions
- Music Awards
- Sports Awards

Full details of these and the selection procedures may be found on the Admissions section of our website.

Winchester College has been providing education and financial support for over 600 years. Enabling pupils who can best benefit from what Winchester has to offer regardless of their parents' ability to pay has always been and remains a core element of the School's ethos. Consistent with the School's commitment to proper use of its charitable funds, scholarships and exhibitions will carry no automatic remission. However, the Warden and Fellows have power to remit all or part of the fee in cases of financial need. The Bursar will invite parents who wish to do so to submit a means-tested application. Bursaries are available as part of the Admissions process to the School and to existing pupils in cases of exceptional and unforeseeable financial hardship. Bursary awards can be assessed for up to 100% of fees, though it is more likely that they will be calculated as a top-up to support a parent's payment of fees. They are subject to annual review each year.

As detailed in the School's policy on Discrimination and Equal Opportunities (Pupils), we do not discriminate directly or indirectly on the grounds of any of the protected characteristics as set out in the Equality Act 2010. The relevant protected characteristics are: disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, and sexual orientation. Winchester College aims to ensure equal treatment of all pupils in all aspects of School life, including making reasonable adjustments to take into account of the cultural or linguistic background or Special Educational Needs of any current or prospective pupil.

We seek to apply our admissions criteria fairly and sensitively, and regardless of an applicant's disability. Our Special Educational Needs and Disability Accessibility Policy and Plan (SENDA) may be found within the Governance section of our website. By accepting a place at Winchester College, parents and pupils agree to support the School's rules and expectations on behaviour as set out in the Winchester Code and School Rules, provided to all new parents in Information for Parents, our Parents' handbook. The General Behaviour and Discipline Policy and Suspensions, Exclusions and Required Removals Policy may also be found within the Governance section of our website.

From September 2022, Winchester College has admitted girl and boy day pupils into the Sixth Form. From September 2026, the school will welcome girl boarders into the Sixth Form. Please contact the Admissions office for more details.

All admissions are at the discretion of the Headmaster.