

Admissions Policy

Newcastle High School for Girls admits pupils on the basis of their suitability to benefit from the education we offer. Our policy is based on the principles within the GDST Equal Opportunities Policy, which states:

“The Council of The Girls’ Day School Trust (the “Trust”) is committed to equal opportunities in education and will not unlawfully discriminate against, or treat less favourably, any pupil at, or applicant to, its schools on the grounds of race, nationality, colour, ethnic or national origin, disability, the pupil’s actual or perceived sexual orientation or the actual or perceived sexual orientation of the pupil’s parents (including guardians and carers), the pupil’s actual or perceived religion or belief (or lack thereof) or the actual or perceived religion or belief (or lack thereof) of the pupil’s parents (including guardians and carers).”

Parents are asked at the time of application whether their daughters have any special requirement or needs for the assessment and examination days and we will do our best to make reasonable adjustments to meet these needs during the admissions process and beyond.

At all ages the criterion for admission is the academic potential which an applicant demonstrates through assessment appropriate to her age or circumstances.

At Junior School age girls are invited to School for an assessment and an interview. We take great care to ensure that girls find this an enjoyable activity.

Girls joining Year 7 are asked to sit an Entrance Examination and attend an interview in the Spring term prior to entrance in the Autumn term. In our selection process we also take account of the report provided by an applicant’s current school.

The same general format is followed for entry to Years 8, 9 and 10 with testing arranged at appropriate times roughly half-termly.

Entrance to the Sixth Form is gained on the basis of an interview in the year preceding entry and GCSE results. The minimum entry requirement is 6 grade Bs and we like to see grade As in the subjects proposed for A Level study.

Transfer arrangements

Transfer from Nursery to Reception and Year 6 to Year 7 (Senior Department) is generally automatic. In the rare case where there are reasons why a pupil in the Junior Department would not be well advised to transfer this would be discussed with the parents at a much earlier stage.

Transfers from other GDST schools may be arranged subject to availability of places and the agreement of the Headmistress.

Honorary Scholarships

Newcastle High School for Girls awards Honorary Scholarships to applicants who gain the highest marks in the Entrance Examination. It is possible to hold an Honorary Scholarship and a bursary.

Bursaries

The GDST Bursaries Fund provides financial assistance to a number of suitably qualified girls whose parents could not otherwise afford the fees to enter the Senior School. Bursaries are awarded on the basis of academic merit and are means-tested. The value of the bursary is related to the income and financial resources of the girl's family. The maximum value of the bursary can be the full published fees. All bursary awards are confidential.

A bursary may be transferred to another GDST school and it may be withdrawn at the discretion of the Headmistress if progress, behaviour and/or a girl's attitude to work is unsatisfactory. Bursaries are reviewed annually and may be adjusted up or down, in value, as the family income changes.

Short Term Assistance

When some form of short-term assistance is required as a result of unexpected financial difficulties applications can be made to the Bursar at School. He will then discuss individual circumstances.

Reviewed August 2016
Next Review Date August 2017