

ADMISSION POLICY

Admission of students - September 2015

Catchment area

Children living in the areas served by the following primary schools: Coates, Park Lane, New Road, Alderman Jacobs and Heritage Park, Duke of Bedford, as indicated on the catchment area map.

1. Policy and numbers

Pupils will be admitted into Year 7 without reference to ability or aptitude.

In 2015, the published admission number will be 180.

2. Admissions criteria to be applied if places are over-subscribed

All preferences are treated equally. Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit: NB. Children who have a statement of special educational needs that names the College will be admitted. Those children with a statement of special educational needs that does not name the College will be referred to Student Assessment to determine an appropriate place.

- a) Children in care, also known as Looked After Children (LAC), and children who were looked after but ceased to be so by reason of adoption, a resident order or special guardianship order.
- b) Children living in the designated catchment areas, attend one of the schools listed above and who have a sibling at the College at the time of admission. Parents may contact the LA if they are uncertain whether or not they reside in the catchment area
- c) Children living in the designated catchment area and who have a sibling at the College at the time of admission.
- d) Children living in the designated catchment areas and attend one of the schools listed above.
- e) Children living in the designated catchment areas.

- f) Children who live outside the catchment area, who attend primary schools within it and who have a sibling³ at the College at the time of admission.
- g) Children who live outside the catchment area who have a sibling at the College at the time of admission.
- h) Children who live outside the catchment area who attend the primary schools within the catchment area.
- i) Children who live outside the catchment area, but nearest the College with the distance between home and College measured in a straight line.

In cases of equal merit, priority will go to children living nearest the College according to the shortest distance. This is measured as a straight line from the reference point of the home to the main pupil entrance at the College.

¹ The home address is defined as the address of the adult with parental responsibility with whom the child normally lives and which applies at the time of application. Applications based on future addresses can only be considered up to **6 teaching weeks** before the child is expected to take up the place and upon confirmation of a minimum of six month tenancy agreement or exchange of contracts.

² A map showing the catchment area and/or further information can be obtained from the College.

³ A sibling is defined as another child of compulsory school age living in the same family home.

3. How were places allocated?

In March 2014 all children were admitted under criteria 1-8.

4. How to apply for a place in Year 7

The application process for admissions into Year 7 is co-ordinated by Cambridgeshire Local Authority (LA), which acts on behalf of the Governing Body to offer places at the College. Parents should submit a Common Application Form, available from their child's primary school or from the LA Admissions Team, no later than the national closing date of 31st October 2015. Offer letters will be issued by the LA on the 1st March 2016. Applications can also be made on line. For details please contact

the LA Admissions Team on 0345 045 1370 or admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

5. How places are offered

For admission into Year 7 September 2015, the LA, on behalf of the Governing Body, will offer places to 180 children. This is the Published Admission Number (PAN) for that year group. In the event that more than 180 applications are received, the oversubscription criteria will be applied to determine priority for places. (See section 2). As part of the co-ordinated scheme for admissions, the LA Admissions Team will hold this reserve list on behalf of the Governing Body until 31st December 2015.

6. How to apply for places after the start of term or for places in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11

To apply for a place after the start of term, or for a place in Years 8, 9, 10, and 11 in-year applications, please contact Cambridgeshire Local Authority (LA) Admissions Team, as above. All parents are advised to read the Local Authority booklet for parents on secondary admissions.

Where it is not possible to offer a place immediately, the child's details will be held on a reserve list by the LA Admissions Team for a period of one term following the term of application. All in Year applications will be co-ordinated by the LA Admissions Team.

Parents wishing to visit the College prior to submitting an application are welcome to do so. However, this is not always possible to organise at short notice and visits are usually conducted in small groups. Visits are not interviews and do not affect any decision regarding the availability of a place.

7. Admissions to Year 12

Applications from external applicants for admissions to Year 12 in Sir Harry Smith Community College should request a Post-16 Application Form and send it directly to the College. Students who attend Sir Harry Smith Community College should complete a Post-16 Internal Application Form and submit it to the College. Alternatively, applications can be made electronically via UCAS Progress.

a) Entry requirements

The entry requirements for both internal and external applicants are the same. The entry requirements will vary according to the level of courses chosen and the specific subjects chosen. Full

details of entry requirements to specific courses can be found in the Sixth Form Prospectus and on the College website (www.sirharrismith.cambs.sch.uk)

- For students taking A2 courses we require seven GCSE A* - C grades, including English and Maths. Students should also have a minimum of a grade B in the subjects they wish to study, if applicable.
- For students taking BTEC courses, we require five GCSE A* - C grades, including English and Maths

We will also consider students based on their individual circumstances.

Both internal and external applicants will be expected to attend a guidance meeting to advise on appropriate course selections.

Please note that the availability of places in certain curriculum subjects may determine if the oversubscription criteria detailed below are applied.

In addition, the College cannot guarantee to run courses in specific subjects if the uptake is too low for a viable cohort.

b) Cohort size

The Year 12 cohort size is expected to fall in the range of 40 to 100 students.

The minimum number of external candidates to be admitted is zero.

c) Oversubscription Criteria

Those who have a statement of special educational needs that names the College will be admitted. Where required the oversubscription criteria below will be applied. Priority will be given in the following order:

- Students in care, also looked after students (LAC), and students who were looked after but ceased to be so by reason of adoption, a resident order or special guardianship order
- Students who attend Sir Harry Smith Community College

- Students with a sibling at the College at the time of admission
- Students in schools without Years 12 & 13
- Students in schools not offering the courses requested

Oversubscription in a category:

Priority will be given to students living nearest the College as measured by a straight line. The distance, for admissions purposes, is measured using the straight line distance from the reference point of the home to the main pupil entrance to the College. These distances can be produced by the LA Admissions team for the College. For families who live outside the area covered by the Cambridgeshire mapping system, distances are determined using a combination of local maps and on-line resources.

Parents and students have a right to appeal against any decision refusing a 6th Form place in a College with a 6th Form. Appeals must be heard by an independent panel within 40 College days of the appeal being lodged.

This is the Sir Harry Smith Community College Admissions Policy, approved by the Governing Body and up dated yearly.