



Homefield Preparatory School

Admissions Policy

General

Homefield Preparatory School is an independent school for boys from the ages of 4 to 13. Homefield Preparatory School has around 350 pupils. Deciding on the right school for your child is very important, and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. We very much hope that you and your child will visit the school. We usually hold an Open Morning on a Saturday during the Autumn Term, as well as several more informal Open Mornings during the week in the Spring and Summer Terms, which give a general introduction to the School. Details are published on our web site under 'Fees and Admissions'.

We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children at other times. Please contact the Registrar on 020 8642 0965 or email on: registrar@homefield.sutton.sch.uk to arrange a visit.

If it is not possible to hold open events or arrange school visits because of circumstances beyond the School's control, then the School publishes on its website the alternative arrangements in place.

The Entry Procedure

Homefield Preparatory School is an academically selective school. Selection is based upon academic merit which will be assessed, an informal interview at the school, references and other relevant information from the candidate's previous school. Our selection process is designed to identify pupils who are able to benefit from our balanced and well-rounded education and to make a positive contribution towards the life of the school.

The usual point of entry is at 4 years of age in the Lower School (Reception class). Places are available in other years, commonly at 7 years of age (Year 3) and 11+ (Year 7). We may also have occasional places in other year groups. Please contact the Registrar for details.

Applicants for admission should register as early as possible, but no later than April in the desired year of admission. The registration form is available to download from our website or on request from our Registrar.

Equal Treatment

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 boys for today's world. Generous bursaries are offered in order to make it possible for as many as possible who meet the School's admission criteria to attend the School. Our provision for bursaries is described below.

Homefield Preparatory School is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background.

Special Needs

Homefield Preparatory School does not unlawfully discriminate in any way regarding entry. The School welcomes pupils with disabilities and/or special educational needs, provided we can offer them any support that they require and cater for any additional needs and that our site can accommodate them. We aim to ensure that all our pupils, including those with disabilities and/or special educational needs, are provided with a safe and inclusive environment in which to learn.

Our policy is to apply our admission criteria to all potential pupils. We require parents of children with special educational needs or physical or mental disabilities to discuss their child's needs with the School before he sits the entrance assessment so that we can make adequate provision for him. Parents should provide with the Registration Form a copy of an educational psychologist's report or a medical report if they have one. This is so that the School can assess their child's needs and consult with parents about the adjustments which can reasonably be made and so that the School can ensure, for example, that he will be able to access the education offered and that we are able to ensure his health and safety, and the health and safety of others.

The School will discuss thoroughly with parents (and their child's medical advisers, if appropriate) the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if he becomes a pupil at the School, to ensure that the prospective pupil is not put at a substantial disadvantage compared to a pupil who is not disadvantaged because of a disability.

There may be exceptional circumstances in which we are not able to offer a place for reasons relating to a child's disability. For example, if, despite reasonable adjustments, we feel that a prospective pupil is not going to be able to access the education offered, or that his health and safety or those of other pupils or staff may be put at risk, we reserve the right to decline a place at the School.

The Assessment Process

The aim of the process is to identify potential. We are looking for well-rounded pupils with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. The school has strong traditions in music, drama, art, debating, community activities and sport. There are many extra-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual.

No specific preparation for the entrance test is needed. All candidates start on an equal footing, with identical opportunities to display their academic aptitude and extra-curricular skills.

Assessment for the Lower School (Reception) is based on observing informal play on a one-to-one basis or in small groups.

All other year groups sit NFER style reasoning papers, which are designed for their age group. In addition, all candidates will sit Maths and English assessments.

We informally interview all candidates as part of our assessment process for each age group apart from the Lower School (Reception) candidates.

The outcome of the assessment process is provided to families as soon after the assessment as possible. We will offer places to candidates from our waiting list after the closing date for acceptances.

Sibling Policy

Many siblings join us at Homefield Preparatory School. 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.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Please see the Schools Scholarship and Bursary Policy.

Fluency in English

In order to cope with the academic and social demands of Homefield Preparatory School, pupils must be reasonably fluent English speakers. Normally pupils should have been educated in the English medium for at least 2 years before coming to the school. Tuition in English as an Additional Language (EAL) can be arranged and this will be at the parent's expense.

Religious Beliefs

Homefield Preparatory School welcomes applications from prospective pupils of all faiths and of no faith. We do not select for entry on the basis of religious belief.

School's Contractual Terms and Conditions

The School's Terms and Conditions are available from the school office and will be made available to parents as part of the admissions process.

Complaints

We hope that you and your son do not have any complaints about our admissions process; but copies of the School's complaints procedure can be sent to you on request.

RECORDS AND REVIEW

Applicants' details will be held on file with due regard to data protection legislation and the School's Privacy Notice Policy.

The School will not hold the personal data of you or your child for longer than is necessary for a lawful purpose. This will generally be no more than 6 months following an unsuccessful application, but reasons to retain for longer might include: for example, if the parents express an interest in the candidate re-applying for any reason at a later date, or in the potential candidacy of another sibling; or to deal with any ongoing matters or queries arising from the application.