



# IPSWICH SCHOOL

## ADMISSIONS POLICY

### APPLICATION

Application forms can be obtained from the Admissions Department at the School or can be completed on the School's website.

Receipt of an application form and fee will be taken as permission to contact the pupil's present head teacher to request a confidential report. Parents or guardians should therefore advise the pupil's present head teacher that they are making an application to Ipswich School.

The School year begins in early September and it is highly desirable that new pupils should join the School then; however, some pupils are admitted to the School in the Lent and Summer Terms.

It is the School's policy to ensure equitable treatment of all pupils. There is a common standard for entry and admission procedures for girls and boys. The underlying consideration for acceptance or refusal is whether or not, in the School's judgement, a child will cope comfortably with the School's curriculum and expectations. The number of pupils accepted is subject to an upper limit determined annually by the Headmaster.

#### **At age 11**

Admission to the School at age 11 is by means of the Entrance Examination, which is held at the School in November. This consists of a Non-Verbal Reasoning Test and papers in Mathematics and English. Practice papers are available on the School's website. The examination is not set according to any specific syllabus; as far as possible we are attempting to assess potential. All candidates sitting the examination may be considered for Awards.

#### **At age 13**

Admission is by means either of the Common Entrance Examination or the School's own Entrance Examination. Candidates sitting the latter may be considered for Awards. Common Entrance candidates can be considered for Art and Music Scholarships. The School's Examination consists of papers in Non-Verbal Reasoning, English and Mathematics. Academic Scholarship candidates will sit further papers in: Science, French or Spanish, PRE, Geography and History. There are optional papers in Latin and German. Practice papers are available on the School's website.

#### **At age 16**

Admission is by interview and a school report (plus an online test for overseas applicants), and the great majority of candidates are interviewed in November for entry to the School the following September. For success at A Level, we would expect students to achieve at least grade 7 at GCSE in the subjects they wish to study, or in related subjects, and at least six grade 6 subjects overall in their GCSEs (or equivalent). If a student wishes to study Biology, Chemistry, Maths or Physics, we ask that they achieve at least a grade 8 in these subjects. Students may be accepted into the Sixth Form with lower grades than this, as long as they are above an absolute minimum of six grade 5 subjects; in these cases we will discuss choices very carefully to determine whether our Sixth Form is the best place for such students to flourish.

### **Admission at other ages**

A small number of pupils are admitted each year at other ages, either by examination or interview or a combination of both.

### **AWARDS**

These are available for external candidates at 11, 13 and 16.

**Academic Scholarships** of up to half fees are awarded on the basis of examinations and an assessment visit at 11 and 13.

**Music and Art Scholarships** at 11 and 13 are awarded on the basis of excellence in these areas as demonstrated by audition or portfolio.

A **Sports Scholarship** at 11 or 13 is awarded to a pupil who will make a significant contribution to the quality of sport at the School and;

an **All Rounder Scholarship** is available at 13.

**Sixth Form Scholarships** are awarded for academic excellence, for exceptional musical talent and for an all-rounder who will do well academically and contribute outstandingly in other areas of School life such as sport or drama.

A **Sports Scholarship** is also available at 16.

We also offer **Arkwright Scholarships**, which focus on Design Technology.

A limited number of Ipswich School **Means-Tested Bursaries** are available at 11, 13 and 16 for pupils of high academic or all-round ability whose parents could not otherwise afford the school fees. These are means-tested on an annual basis, taking into account both income and assets. Full fee remission is available. Early application is essential for consideration for a Means Tested Bursary.

Further details of all Scholarships and Means-Tested Bursaries are available from the Admissions Department.

### **NOTIFICATION OF ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS**

Parents who have completed the Application Form and paid the registration fee are notified early in the academic year with the dates and times of the Entrance Examinations.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF A PLACE**

All acceptances are considered firm by the beginning of the term preceding the term of entry. In the case of withdrawals after this date a term's fees in lieu of notice are invariably required. The only exception to this is in cases where a pupil who has accepted a Sixth Form place does not achieve the necessary GCSE grades.

### **SCHOOL RULES**

Acceptance of a place involves a commitment by the parents or guardians to uphold the School Rules and Regulations. These are sent to the parents of all successful candidates and are also available on request from the Admissions Department.

Ipswich School Admissions are operated within the Code of Practice agreed and published by the five Independent Schools Heads' Associations (GSA, HMC, IAPS, ISA and SHMIS).

Reviewed July 2023