



Derby
Grammar
School

Bringing education to life.

Admissions Policy

Academic year: 2018-2019

Principles

At Derby Grammar School we seek to ensure that all those pupils who are admitted to the school will thrive in an environment of high expectation and achievement will be able to benefit from the rounded education provided and be happy within the school community.

We seek to offer places to those whom we believe can contribute positively to the school community, and whom we can educate within our own teaching, pastoral and learning support structure.

Progression from one part of the school to another is expected but cannot be guaranteed: there are occasions when such progression is not in the interests of either the child or the wider community. In such circumstances we would inform the parents well in advance and offer guidance for future options for schooling. All those joining the School must abide by the Standard terms and Conditions of Derby Grammar School and to adhere to relevant school rules and policies.

Derby Grammar School welcomes applicants from all backgrounds and does not discriminate on the basis of disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation. Should a candidate be disabled under the definition of the Equality Act 2010 or the Special Education Needs and Disability Act 2001, then all reasonable special arrangements can be made on request. Derby Grammar School, an independent Junior and Secondary School, recognises that 'all children, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to a full time education which is suitable to their age, ability, aptitude and any special education needs they may have'. (KCSIE, 2016).

Admission to Derby Grammar School is by entrance examinations, which test potential as well as present attainment. In addition, a written reference will be sought from the current candidate's school along with an interview where considered appropriate. Entry to the Sixth Form is also conditional on GCSE performance.

Application process

Admissions will send a prospectus, registration form and related information within five working days of an enquiry. After a tour of the school, or 'Taster Day', the registration form should be completed and returned to the School with a non-refundable registration fee if you wish to apply to the School. Fees are updated yearly and are available for review on the website and on the registration form.

Registration is acknowledged within five working days. Entrance Examinations take place in January each year, with Scholarships and Awards trials taking place in February each year. If your child is successful in the examinations, then an offer of a place is given. We ask that the contract is signed and returned with a deposit. In June of each year, we offer an Induction Day to those pupils who are starting in the new academic year.

Entrance Examination

The aim of the process is to identify potential. We are looking for well-rounded pupils with a genuine interest in education and interests that stretch beyond the curriculum. The School has strong traditions in sport, music, science and community projects. Our extra-curricular activities are designed to develop pupils, supporting them as they become successful members of society.

Last reviewed: GRE September 2018

Next review due: September 2019

No specific preparation is required to sit the entrance exams. If, however, you would like to practice before the day, then you can purchase example papers easily online from a number of well-known shops.

Junior School

A full day in class, with assessments in Reading, Verbal Reasoning, Writing and Mathematics. We expect pupils to be working at age related expectations and we are looking for standardised scores of 100 and above.

Senior School

Entrance is by examinations in Maths, English Comprehension and Writing. Both Maths and English are set to the standards of the National Curriculum.

Sixth Form

Entry to the Sixth Form is subject to a minimum requirement of 5 GCSEs at Grade 6 or above. Candidates should have achieved a Grade 7 in the subject to be studied at A Level. In addition, there will be an interview with the Head of Sixth Form before a 'conditional' offer can be made. This will be made unconditional when the results for GCSEs are published and the conditions of offer have been met.

Scholarships, Exhibitions and Bursaries

Derby Grammar School offers scholarships in the Senior School for excellence in the following areas:

- Academic
- Music and Choral
- Sport

The purpose of the scholarship is to reward excellence and to celebrate talent in the above areas. In recognition of this achievement a maximum of 15% reduction in the fees throughout the pupil's time at Derby Grammar School.

Academic Scholarship

An academic scholarship is awarded based on the results of the entrance examinations held in January.

Music and Choral Music scholarships

These are awarded to outstanding musicians who play an instrument or sing with exceptional ability. The Governor's award up to three music scholarships each year. Pupils are expected to have passed the entrance exam before applying for a scholarship.

We assess music ability by a performance interview with the Head of Music. Applicants should have at least grade 4 in a musical instrument/voice for entry into Year 7 and be prepared to perform a piece of their choice and have an aural test. Music scholars will be expected to contribute to the musical life of school.

Derby Grammar School has close links with Derby Cathedral and its choir. Choral scholarships are offered to pupils who are members of the Choir at Derby Cathedral. Choristers are asked to contact Hugh Morris, Master of Music at the Cathedral for details.

Sports Scholarship Sports scholarships

These are awarded to outstanding, all-round sportsmen/women who have achieved a high level of competence in one or more sports. The Governor's award up to three sports scholarships each year. Pupils are expected to have passed the entrance exam before applying for a scholarship. Sports Trials are held after the entrance examination.

The Head of Sport will assess sporting ability as well as reviewing a report from the child's current sports coach. Sports scholars will be expected to contribute to the sporting life of school.

Exhibitions

On occasion, the Governor's offer an exhibition to pupils who have passed their entrance exam and show promise in a subject. The maximum reduction for an exhibition is 5% reduction on fees. Bursaries Derby Grammar School's bursary programme seeks to extend access to Derby Grammar School to pupils who might otherwise not be able to afford the fees. Bursaries are means-tested and both parents are required to provide proof of their income and assets. The level of support varies according to parental need. Bursaries are always offered for 12 months at a time after which a review of the parents current financial circumstances will be reassessed.

The School's normal practice is to allocate its available bursary funding to pupils on entry to the School. The School's expectation is that parents, who do not apply for a bursary at the time their child is being assessed, will not require financial support throughout the time that their child attends the school, except in wholly unforeseen circumstances. Parents who wish to apply for a bursary are asked to contact the Bursar to request an application form. This will need to be returned by the end of January of the year of entry. Typically, bursaries awarded are between 5% to 60% of school fees.

Religious Beliefs

We do not select on entry on the basis of religious beliefs. Derby Grammar School has an Anglican chaplaincy, although it also offers the opportunity for each child to practice their own faiths.

Sibling Policy

Most siblings join us at Derby Grammar School. However, admission is not automatic and there may be occasions where the School judges that a sibling is likely to thrive better in another **academic** environment.

Parental Co-Operation

Derby Grammar School promotes a safe and friendly environment where teachers can teach and pupils can learn. Pupils have the right to an education, which offers them the best opportunity to attain their potential. Our policies on the School Rules and Code of Conduct can be found on the website. Parents agree to their child adhering to these rules when they enrol their child at Derby Grammar School. We ask that parents support the school by ensuring their children are available to attend such things as sports fixtures or musical/drama events in which they may be chosen to represent the school.

Complaints

The School hopes that parents and pupils will not have any complaints about the School's admissions process. However, if they do, then they should write to the Registrar initially. We aim to respond to the initial complaint within 24 hours and have a full response to any complaint within 14 days.

Suspension (temporary exclusion)

This is imposed only by the Head. Suspension is used in cases of great seriousness and may be followed in some circumstances by a pupil being required to leave. Suspensions are for specified periods of time, which may be extended if the Head thinks it is appropriate.

Expulsion (permanent exclusion)

This is a matter entirely for the Head, and Chairman of Governors and would be applied for persistent offences or offences which include the possession of drugs, theft or repeated bullying, smoking or consumption of alcohol and aggressive or dangerous behaviour. (see policy statements). Suspension and expulsion will only be imposed after an interview between the pupil, his parents and the Head. The Head will inform the purpose of the meeting in writing beforehand.