



FARRINGTONS
SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY (INCLUDING EYFS AND BOARDING)

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ISI requirement to be on the School website	Y
Parent Portal	Y
Staff Hub	Y
ISI Portal	Y
Limited internal use only (state who the recipients are)	N

Farringtons School Admissions Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 This policy has been written to detail our admissions policy and to help explain our admissions process. We hope you find this information useful, if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our School Registrar (details are below) and thank you for your interest in joining Farringtons.

1.2 Farringtons School is a co-educational independent school for pupils aged 2½ to 18, extending to pupils aged two to 18 from September 2027. Entry dates for the Early Years provision are set out in paragraph 2.2.1. 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 Farringtons School. We hold several open events each term, which give a general introduction to the School. Details are published on our website. We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children to visit by appointment. Please contact, the School Registrar (telephone 020 8467 0256 or email on admissions@farringtons.kent.sch.uk) to arrange a visit.

2 The Admissions Procedure

2.1 Farringtons School is a wide ability selective school. Our selection process throughout the age range is designed to identify pupils who benefit from our balanced and well-rounded education and to make a positive contribution towards the life of the school.

2.2 Early Years: Two-Year-Old Provision, Pre-Reception and Reception

2.2.1 From September 2026, children may join the two-year-old provision from the half-term after they reach 2½ years of age, subject to availability. From September 2027, children may join from the half-term after they reach two years of age. Pre-Reception is the one-year class immediately before Reception, with entry normally at the start of the academic year.

2.2.2 Admission to the EYFS involves a parent meeting and an age-appropriate “Getting to Know You” play-based visit or observation. This is not a formal developmental assessment. Parents will be asked to provide any available nursery report and Two-Year Progress Review or Ages and Stages Report, together with information about the child’s development, routines and any identified or suspected additional needs. Children entering Pre-Reception are normally expected to have basic toilet training, recognising that occasional accidents may occur and that individual needs and reasonable adjustments will be considered.

2.2.3 Admission to the two-year-old provision does not guarantee a place in Pre-Reception or Reception. The School may require a further age-appropriate review before progression to Pre-Reception and will review the child’s progress and readiness for Reception during the Pre-Reception year. Where the School does not intend to offer a Reception place, parents will

normally be informed by March of the Pre-Reception year. Further Early Years admissions and funding arrangements are set out in Appendix 1.

2.3 Prep School

2.3.1 Before arranging an assessment, the School will consider whether there is likely to be capacity in the relevant year group. Applicants will normally attend a taster and age-appropriate assessment visit with their prospective class. For Years 1 and 2, this normally includes light-touch reading or phonics and mathematics activities. For Years 3 to 6, this normally includes reading, writing and mathematics assessments. A recent school report and, where appropriate, a reference will normally be requested.

2.3.2 Where additional needs are disclosed or identified, the application will be reviewed by the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) or Learning Development Department, as appropriate. The school may request further professional information, arrange an additional meeting or observation, and make reasonable adjustments to the admissions process before deciding whether it can meet the child's needs.

2.3.3 We believe there are significant academic and pastoral benefits to staying at Farringtons into the Senior School and the support we can give children and their families through the transition to the Senior School is the foundation of the success they go on to achieve.

For pupils already at Farringtons entry from the Prep School to the Senior School is automatic. However, Farringtons School reserves the right not to offer a place in Year 7 if it is felt that transferring to another school would be more appropriate for the academic or developmental progress of a child. Parents would be consulted regarding admission to the Senior School when their child is in Year 5.

Year 6 pupils transferring from the Prep School are required to take the Year 7 entrance examinations to be considered for an Academic Scholarship for the Senior School. Sports, Music, Performing Arts and Creative Arts scholarships are also available and should be applied for via the School Portal.

2.4 Senior School (Points of entry: Year 7, Year 8 – 10 and Sixth Form)

2.4.1 Year 7 entry:

Our Year 7 Entrance Examination is held in the Autumn Term prior to transfer.

2.4.2 There are three components to our entry process at this stage:

- Examinations in English, Mathematics and Verbal/Non-Verbal Reasoning.
- An interview with a senior member of staff. Candidates will be asked to bring an object or piece of work for discussion and talk about their hobbies and interests.
- References and most recent school report from the candidate's previous School.

2.4.3 Year 8 - 10 entry:

Subject to availability, applications are taken for entry into Year 8 – 10. To join the school, pupils, need to sit our entrance examinations and attend a taster day together with an interview. For

entry at this stage, examination papers are usually taken at Farringtons, but may, exceptionally, be taken at a pupil's current school with their agreement. A reference and latest school reports from an applicant's current school will be sought.

2.4.4 Sixth Form (Year 12) entry

Sixth Form is popular and admission to courses will depend upon availability of places and a pupil's prior attainment at GCSE (a minimum of 35 points is required for entry). Our policy is to ensure that pupils accepted into the Sixth Form can be placed in appropriate courses where they are likely to succeed. For this reason, the following pathway options are available and there are subject specific requirements detailed in Appendix 2. If an applicant does not meet the entry criteria, the School reserves the right to use its discretion, based on the School's knowledge of the applicant and a discussion with the family, to offer a place or suggest alternative subject options.

2.4.5 Year 12 pathway options

In addition to the minimum of 35 points achieved at GCSE, there are specific entrance requirements for each subject to be studied at A-Level and/or BTEC. As a guideline, pathways into admissions for Sixth Form are as follows:

Emerald Pathway	Sapphire Pathway	Ruby Pathway
3 A Levels in Year 12 and 13, (possibly including 1 x BTEC subject) + possible EPQ.	Compulsory BTEC subject choice + guided A Levels.	Compulsory BTEC choices.
Seven 9-5 grades in full course GCSE subjects. May include BTEC equivalents.	Five 9-4 grades in GCSE or equivalent.	Five 9-4 grades in GCSE or equivalent, with at least a Merit or grade 4 in a relevant BTEC or GCSE.

2.4.6 While every effort will be made to ensure option blocks reflect pupils' preferences; we cannot guarantee this. The school reserves the right to determine the final structure of option blocks and, where necessary, to withdraw subjects or courses due to factors including, but not limited to, insufficient demand, staffing considerations, or timetabling constraints.

2.4.7 At each stage of Senior School entry in addition to the entry requirements detailed above, a meeting with our Learning Development Department may also be required if the child has any additional needs.

2.4.8 A character reference from the Head of the prospective pupil's current school will be asked for to detail academic ability, attitude and behaviour, involvement in the school community, talents and interests, and any other special circumstances such as special education needs, or a disability. The reference may also include the results of tests taken at the school (such as NFER or SATs) and predicted grades at GCSE (if appropriate).

2.4.9 Very occasionally, we may offer places to pupils one year ahead or behind their standard year group, if we consider, as a matter of professional judgement that this would be in the best interests of the pupil and the School.

2.4.10 Pupils wishing to enter Year 8, 9 and 10 can do so should there be space available. The admissions process will follow as above.

3 International students:

3.1 We welcome applications from international students who want to study in our Senior School as a boarder if he/she has a relative or legal guardian living within the UK with whom he / she can stay (*See Guardianship Policy*) and that he / she is able to meet UK visa requirements.

3.2 If places are available Farringtons School also offers a short-term study programme ranging from one term to one year. The school reserves the right to accept a pupil into a specific year group at their discretion.

3.3 Overseas pupils who may have equivalent qualifications will still be required to achieve an acceptable standard in the School's Entrance Examinations. These entrance papers must be taken under our prescribed examination conditions.

3.4 Pupils must achieve an Upper Intermediate (B2) level of English to be admitted to a two-year A-Level course of study. Students achieving Intermediate (B1) will be offered a place in Year 10 for a two-year GCSE course or if available a place on a one-year Pre A Level course.

3.5 Further On-line English and Internal Mathematics papers will also be sat once the pupil has arrived in the school. Any discrepancies in grades achieved on arrival could result in a change of programme of study or ultimately withdrawal of student sponsorship.

4 Offer and Allocation of Places

4.1 If the number of registered applicants for a year group exceeds the places available, the following factors may be considered in no fixed order, insofar as they are relevant to the applicant's age and point of entry:

- The outcome of the relevant age-appropriate assessment, play observation or entrance examination
- Performance in the interview with a senior member of staff
- The presence of a sibling already at the School for applications to the two-year-old provision, Pre-Reception or Reception
- The length of time the child has been registered for entry
- References from an applicant's current school
- A child with a particular skill, talent or aptitude
- A child whose parent is a current member of our staff
- Maintaining a full co-educational balance
- The applicant's conduct and engagement during the relevant visit, taster, assessment or entrance examination.

If there is over-subscription in any of the above categories, places will be allocated in order of date of registration.

5 Equal Opportunities

5.1 We welcome children and their families from all backgrounds and our criteria for admission apply equally for all children, regardless of ethnicity, religion, race, sexual orientation, gender or social background.

5.2 Human rights and freedoms are respected but must be balanced with the lawful needs and rules of our school community and the rights and freedoms of others. All candidates for admission will be treated equally, irrespective of their, or their parents' race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, nationality or social origin, association with a national minority, orientation, property, birth or other status.

5.3 We expect all our pupils to attend our chapel, church services and school assemblies which are fundamental to our Methodist ethos and to attend lessons in religious education.

6 Disability and Special Education Needs

6.1 In line with our legal and moral responsibilities under the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014, pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) must have equal access to join the School providing they satisfy the School's selection procedures. We are proud of our tradition of welcoming pupils with SEN or physical disabilities but recognise that the School may not be the most appropriate environment for all pupils to thrive.

6.2 Where an applicant has special educational needs or disabilities, parents must provide all relevant information available from professionals before the child attends any assessment, observation or taster visit and before an offer is confirmed. This enables the School to consider reasonable adjustments, the suitability of the proposed provision and the support already available within the relevant year group. Applicants will complete the age-appropriate admissions process set out in this policy; only applicants at points of entry requiring a formal entrance examination will be expected to sit one.

6.3 Pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan will be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the School can meet the provision and outcomes for the pupil. To ensure that pupils are treated fairly and equitably, we will consult widely with the relevant teaching staff and educational professionals involved in the application process (educational psychologists, local authority representatives and Head Teachers).

6.4 The provision comprises weekly group interventions for pupils requiring support with their literacy and numeracy. There will also be provision for specific time-limited and targeted interventions to assist pupils in reaching the standard expected within a mainstream setting. We can offer some in-class TA support for the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

6.5 Pupils may be allowed access arrangements (extra time or the use of a laptop) if there is evidence that this provision will enable them to demonstrate their academic potential. This must be their normal way of working in their current school. For this reason, we do not offer the

facility for a scribe or reader to assist the pupil during the Entrance Examination.

6.6 If additional educational needs or a disability becomes apparent after admission, the school will consult with parents about reasonable adjustments that may allow the pupil to continue at the School.

6.7 If additional or more complex needs become apparent after the offer of a place has been made and accepted, but before a pupil has started at the School, a further assessment may be required together with consultation with the Head of Learning Development.

7 Registration

7.1 Completion of the registration form and payment of the applicable non-refundable fee registers an application, but does not guarantee an assessment, offer or place or bind parents to accept a place. Applications remain subject to year-group availability and successful completion of the relevant admissions process. For funded Early Years places, Appendix 1 applies.

8 Scholarships and Bursaries

8.1 Scholarships are available for exceptional students with academic talent, sporting skill, creative or performing arts and/or musical ability. They are usually awarded for entry into Year 7. A small number of scholarships for pupils joining Year 9 from schools where pupils finish at the end of Year 8 are also available. Academic scholarships are offered to Year 12 entrants, following an optional examination taken in January, with an Academic scholarship offered for entry into Year 3. Further details are available from the School Registrar and are also available on the Farringtons School website.

8.2 Exhibition Awards may be also given at the Head's discretion to anyone who shows outstanding ability, commitment to the school and follows the expectations of a Scholarship.

8.3 All Scholarship and Exhibition Awards are formally reviewed annually and providing the requirements of the award are being fulfilled and academic progress is deemed suitable; scholars can expect school fee remission until the end of their Sixth Form studies.

8.4 Farringtons can provide some financial assistance to pupils whose parents could not otherwise afford the fees, and these bursaries are awarded on the assessed basis of financial need.

9 Entrance

9.1 Once a place has been offered by the School, parents should confirm the decision for their child/ren to join the School by completing the Parental Contract/Acceptance Form and returning the documents with the appropriate deposit. Deposits are not refunded if places are not taken up. The documents are set out, in detail, along with the terms and conditions on joining the School.

9.2 From September 2018 we are required by the Department for Education to have a minimum of two emergency contact numbers for each child enrolled at Farringtons.

10 School's contractual terms and conditions

10.1 Copies will be made available to parents as part of the admissions process.

11 Complaints

11.1 The School hopes that parents and pupils do not have any complaints about its admissions process, but copies of the School's complaints policy can be viewed on the School website or sent to parents on request.

12 Confidentiality

Exam results and other records relating to applications for entry are confidential and will not be made available. 

Farringtons School Early Years Admissions Policy

Ofsted Number: 101685

We operate an inclusion and equality policy and ensure that all children have access to nursery places and services irrespective of their gender, race, disability, religion, belief, or sexual orientation of parents.

Early Years places, sessions, fees and funding

Admissions arrangements for the two-year-old provision, Pre-Reception and Reception are set out in section 2.2 of this policy. Places and session patterns are subject to availability and any applicable progression review.

Fees, deposits and any government-funded hours are set out in the School's current published fees information, Early Years Funding Offer and parent contract, subject to applicable government and local-authority funding requirements. Parents will be given the arrangements applying to their child's cohort, including eligible ages, documentation, session patterns, notice and deposit or credit arrangements, before accepting a place. Any proposed funding transition or replacement deposit arrangement will be confirmed separately once approved.

Where a funded place is offered, funded hours are free of charge. Access must not depend on paying a non-refundable registration fee or purchasing additional hours, meals, consumables or activities. Any optional charges and alternatives will be explained in advance, and any permitted deposit will be refunded in accordance with the applicable funding rules. These funding-specific arrangements apply where they differ from paragraphs 7.1 and 9.1.

Appendix 1- Farringtons School Early Years Admissions Policy - Ofsted Number: 101685

We operate an inclusion and equality policy and ensure that all children have access to nursery places and services irrespective of their gender, race, disability, religion, belief, or sexual orientation of parents.

	Under 2-Year-Old Working Families (30) 570 hours per academic year	Early Learning for 2's Funding (15) 570 hours per academic year	2 Year Olds Working 570 hours per academic year	3 & 4 Year Olds Universal 570 hours per academic year	3 & 4 Year Olds Extended 1140 hours per academic year
When	NA	NA	Monday – Friday, 34 weeks per year	Monday – Friday, 34 weeks per year	NA
Offer	NA	NA	8.45am – 11.45am Or 12.30pm – 3.30pm Any 5 mornings or afternoons (minimum 3 sessions per week permitted)	8.45am – 11.45am Or 12.30pm – 3.30pm Any 5 mornings or afternoons (minimum 3 sessions per week permitted)	NA
Consumables	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Additional	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Appendix 2 – Year 12 subject specific entry requirements

Subject	English Lang / Lit	Maths grade	Relevant Subject	Other requirements/information
Creative Arts - Art, Graphics, Photography	5	-	5	Portfolio interview
Biology	5	5	6	-
Business BTEC	4	4	-	-
Chemistry	5	6	6	-
Digital Media CT	4	4	-	-
Drama	5	-	5	Audition
Economics	5	6	-	Extended writing subject
English Literature	5 and 6	-	-	-
Further Maths	-	8	-	Must also be studying Maths A Level
Geography	5	5	5	Extended writing subject
Government and Politics	5	-	-	Extended writing subject
History	5	-	5	Extended writing subject

Mathematics	-	7	-	Additional aptitude test for all students
Modern Foreign Languages	5	-	6	-
Music	5	-	6	Grade V in instrument and audition
Physics	5	6	6	-
Psychology	5	5	-	Extended writing subject
Religious Studies	5	-	5	Extended writing subject
Sport BTEC	4	-	-	Must be involved in sport outside of School