



Portsmouth
High School

G D S T
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Admissions and Key Stage Transfers

Pre-School, Prep, Senior and Sixth Form

Portsmouth High School,
25 Kent Road, Southsea,
Hampshire PO5 3EQ.
T 023 9282 6714 E headsec@por.gdst.net
www.portsmouthhigh.co.uk

Part of the Girls' Day School Trust family of schools

Admissions and Key Stage Transfers Policy

Admissions

As a member of The Girls' Day School Trust, Portsmouth High School is bound by its policy of commitment to equal opportunities in education, therefore no pupil at or applicant to Portsmouth High School should receive more or less favourable treatment on grounds of race, nationality, colour, ethnic or national origin, religion or creed.

At the time of registration parents are asked, on the entry form, to indicate whether their daughter has a special educational need (SEN). If the pupil has an educational psychologist's report which states that extra time should be allowed when working under timed conditions the prescribed amount of time (usually 25%) will be allocated for the entrance examination, as will any other clear guidelines e.g. instructions for the exam being enlarged to A3.

With the exception of Pre-School entry to the school is conditional upon the applicant achieving an acceptable standard in an appropriate assessment or examination. Examination for admission, for which the standard will be set by the Headmistress, will be graduated according to age and may include an interview. The order in which applications are made for admission will be immaterial in considering the offer of places.

There is no automatic right of transfer from one Trust school to another; however, the transfer of existing Trust pupils between Trust schools, for example as a result of relocation or the need for boarding facilities, may be arranged. Arrangements governing transfer will usually vary according to phase.

Entry into the Pre-School

Entrants into the Pre-School will have a settle or taster session in advance of starting where possible. There is no official assessment and each child will be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the school is able to meet their needs.

For children registering to attend Pre-School for 15 hours or less the school is fully compliant with PCC legal requirements that stipulate a need for no entry barrier to the school. Registration fees, deposits and term in lieu of notice payments are not applicable until a child attends for over 15 hours.

Entry into the Prep School

All girls are assessed prior to entry and candidates will be admitted who are considered likely to progress through the usual pathways for pupils attending the school. Entrants to Reception have an informal assessment in the spring of the year before they are due to

begin. Those that express an interest after this time will be assessed in the same manner on a one-to-one basis.

For entry to the Prep School girls will be informally assessed on their taster day. They will perform the same work as other girls in the class and the teachers will observe their progress and interactions. The Prep Head or Deputy Head will provide feedback for parents at the end of the taster day. In some cases further taster days may be required.

Entry into the Senior School

11+ entry consists of formal written tests in English and mathematics and a report requested from the girl's current school. Internal candidates sit the same tests as a formal transfer test into the senior school since the results are used to select the recipients of the scholarships on offer at this stage. All potential entrants are invited to the school for an afternoon of activities and team building.

11+ scholarships are normally awarded to those who score the highest aggregate marks. Sports and music scholarships can be awarded at this stage. Bursaries are awarded only to pupils whose performance in the Entrance Examinations is exceptional. All bursaries are means tested and their value is related to the income and financial resources of the pupil's family.

12+, 13+ and 14+ entry is conducted as for 11+ candidates who will also have a short interview.

For existing Prep School pupils, transfer is anticipated unless in the opinion of the Head the pupil has not attained a sufficiently high standard of work to enable her to benefit from continuing her education at the school. If this is the case, then in the case of Year 6 – Year 7 transfer the Parent will be advised in writing before the end of Year 5 of the targets to be attained for entry into Year 7. If transfer is not considered desirable no less than one term's written notice will be given.

12+, 13+ and 14+ entry is conducted as for 11+

Entry into the Sixth Form

External applicants will be invited for interview and will have the opportunity to sit the scholarship entrance paper in the spring term. The offer of a place will be dependent on predicted grades for GCSE. The expectation is that candidates will obtain at least seven GCSE grades at grade 5 or above, with most subjects requiring at least grade 6 as a prerequisite for A level study.

Policy date: March 2018

Next review date: March 2021

Reviewed by Deputy Head (Academic) and Prep Head and Director of Communications