



## **The Folkestone School for Girls** **Admissions Arrangements**

The Folkestone School for Girls is an 11-18 selective girls' grammar school and the only selective school for girls in the town of Folkestone and the district of Shepway. The main principle of admission to The Folkestone School for Girls is to maintain the character of a selective, single sex school. We promote excellence and expect girls to exhibit a strong work ethic and commitment to academic study.

### **Policy for Admission of Students in September 2015**

Only students who attain the required standard in the prescribed arrangements for selection by reference to ability and aptitude will be eligible to be considered for admission to the school.

### **Eligibility for consideration**

These arrangements require that, in order to be eligible for consideration for admission to the school at age 11, would-be students must either:

(a) attain satisfactory scoring across tests taken at The Folkestone School for Girls. These will test students' verbal, non-verbal and Mathematical competency and will require similar skills to those needed for Key Stage 2 English and Mathematics. The minimum scoring for entry will be that which will reasonably predict that at the end of Year 11 the candidate will attain qualifications sufficient to embark on Sixth Form studies at the school, given the curriculum through the school with its particular spread of subjects, time allocation to them and style of delivery. It is anticipated that this level will correspond approximately with that which would be attained or exceeded by 25% of the age group locally. Arrangements to take the tests will be announced by the governing body in the local press and also advertised on the school's website. Application to take the test should be made on the school's application form which is available from the school and should be returned to the school.

or (b) be selected for grammar school education by the Kent Age 11 assessment administered through the Local Authority coordinated scheme.

### **Numbers**

The number of intended admissions for the year commencing September 2015 will be 180 at age 11. Girls with statements of Special Educational Needs, who meet the entry requirements, will also be admitted.

### **Appeals**

If you are not offered a place at our school, you have the right to appeal to an independent panel. For places in Year 7, details of the appeals process will normally be sent out by the LA with the offer letters. Please ensure that appeals are headed with the school name and address and are returned to the Clerk to the Independent Appeals Panel, c/o The Folkestone School for Girls, Coolinge Lane, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 3RB. The closing date on the appeal application form must be adhered to. If you are in any doubt about the appeals process, please contact the school for further information.

### **Over-Subscription**

Where successful applications exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order as written. In such circumstances, no guarantee of a place can be made. Places will be awarded according to rank order of ability within each sub-section:

- i. **Looked after children** - the school will give top priority to applications on behalf of looked after children, previously looked after children and those who have been adopted and therefore have ceased to be looked after children, who meet the entry requirements. A child under the age of 18 years for whom the Local Authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) or who is subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act is deemed to be a looked after child.
- ii. **Girls who reside in the District of Shepway** (a map of this area is available from the school).
- iii. **Other girls who satisfy the selection requirements, with those living nearest to the school being given the higher priority.** This will also serve as a tie-breaker in the event of a tie for the last place. In order to assess the nearness of a child's home to school, we use the distance between the child's permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using Ordnance Survey address point data. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home, to a point defined as within the school, as specified by Ordnance Survey. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody.

### **Waiting Lists**

In line with the re-allocation process as determined by the coordinated Admissions Scheme, eligible students who have requested a place will be assigned to a waiting list.

### **Late Entrants**

Subject to the availability of places, girls may be admitted to the school between the ages of 11 and 15 if they achieve a satisfactory standard in the assessments made by the school in English, Mathematics and non-verbal reasoning. Those wishing to be tested for late entry should contact the Admissions Officer at the school. The school will then contact the parent/ carer to arrange a mutually convenient date for testing to be carried out. No provision will be made for any student to repeat an academic year, apart from in exceptional circumstances.

### **Admissions to the Sixth Form**

We offer a range of academic & vocational subjects to our 6<sup>th</sup> form students and all have entrance requirements at GCSE – see 6<sup>th</sup> form prospectus for full details.

The school participates in the Kent Online Application Scheme and all applicants are required to submit an online application which can be accessed from the website: [www.kentchoices4u.com](http://www.kentchoices4u.com). We welcome external applications from students transferring from other schools; we have a PAN (Published Admission Number) of 25 for external admissions. The same admission criteria will apply to both internal and external students.

### **Admission Number Year 12**

We might exceed this number if the preferred courses of study are not oversubscribed and the external applicant has met the relevant entry requirements. Details of application deadlines for internal and external candidates can be found in the 6<sup>th</sup> form prospectus and the online area prospectus. Applicants should comply with the deadline date to enable us to plan courses effectively.

### **Academic Requirements**

For entry onto our AS and A2 level courses we require:

- a minimum of 6 separately identifiable GCSE subjects at grade B or above, and at least a grade C in English Language and Mathematics;
- a grade B or above in the chosen course of study or a related subject as specified in the 6<sup>th</sup> form prospectus. To study Mathematics, Science or MFL subjects, an A/A\* grade is recommended.

Meeting the requirements is no guarantee that the applicant will automatically be offered a place on the course.

Entry into Year 13 for external applicants will depend on the courses required, the availability of a place within the groups and the applicant's results from any AS Level modules taken in Year 12. Please note that in situations where the student needs to transfer examination boards, and a place is available on the course, we will need to seek advice from the examination board about whether the candidate is able to transfer from one exam board to another. In all cases, we require evidence that the applicant will go on to complete the course successfully.

### **Over-subscription**

If by the first day of term the number of applicants to the Sixth Form exceeds the number of available places, priority will be awarded to those who meet the entry requirements on the basis of:

- i. **looked after children** - as defined in the whole school admission policy;
- ii. **applications from internal candidates;**
- iii. **rank order of merit in GCSE qualifications;**
- iv. **distance from home to school** - as defined in the whole school admission policy.

Any applicant refused a place in the Sixth Form is entitled to make an appeal to an independent appeal panel, whether the student is already attending the school or is an external candidate. Appeals may be lodged by the parent, by the student or both.

### **Applicants from Overseas**

It should be noted that any student who applies for entry to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form with qualifications other than those recognised in the UK will be required to demonstrate that she has achieved the required standard for entry. This may involve tests in a range of subjects.

### **General**

After a place has been offered the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- when a parent has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time; or
- when a parent has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; or
- the admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent.