

Brampton College Admissions Policy

Aims

The aim of this policy is to identify and admit students who will benefit from an academic education and who will contribute to the ethos and activities of our College community. We will only admit a student who has met the academic criteria.

Equal treatment: We welcome students from many different ethnic groups, backgrounds and creeds. Human rights and freedoms are respected but must be balanced with the lawful needs and rules of our College 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, national or social origin, association with a national minority, sexual orientation, property, birth or other status.

Disability and special educational needs: The College has limited facilities for the disabled but will do all that is reasonable to comply with its legal and moral responsibilities under the The Children's and Families Act: section 69 and the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2014 to accommodate the needs of applicants who have disabilities for which, with reasonable adjustments, the College can cater adequately. The College complies with the 0-25 Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice.

The College needs to be aware of any known disability or special educational need which may affect a child's ability to take full advantage of the education provided at the College. Parents of a child who has any disability or special educational needs should provide the College with full written details at the time of application, or subsequently during the interview process.

The College needs this information so that, in the case of any child with particular needs, we can assess those needs and consult with parents about the adjustments which can reasonably be made to cater adequately for the child's needs both during the admission process and if an offer of a place is made.

Similarly, if special education needs or a disability become apparent after admission, the College will consult with parents about reasonable adjustments that may allow the child to continue at the College.

Procedures

Summary: Our admission procedure has four elements:

- Interviews;
- Academic references;
- Evidence of prior attainment;
- Special educational needs assessments (if applicable).

Interviews: In all cases there will be a general interview to explore the applicant's interests, attitude to College, personal qualities, ability to contribute to the College community, support available at home and any relevant connection with the College. This interview will be with either the Principal, one of the Vice Principals or the Director of Studies. In the case of a GCSE candidate the interview will be with the Head of the GCSE Department.

Character reference: The Head Teacher of the applicant's current school will be asked to provide a written reference as to the applicant's academic ability, attitude and behaviour, talents and interest, and any other special circumstances such as special education needs, or a disability. The school will also be asked to provide predictions for any public examinations to be taken prior to admission.

Evidence of prior attainment: At the interview stage, the applicant will be required to bring evidence of prior attainment, for example public exam results slips, copies of end of year assessments taken at school and the latest school report.

Special educational needs assessments: If applicable, before enrolment, the applicant will be required to bring evidence of any special educational needs assessments and/or Educational Psychologist reports related to access arrangements for exams. It is important that parents disclose any known or suspected circumstances relating to their child's health, allergies, disabilities or learning difficulties so that the College can best support the young person.

Entry Criteria

Admission for A level: All prospective AS students receive our Statement of Admission criteria, which state that our primary criterion is the ability to demonstrate the motivation and commitment as well as the background skills, knowledge and aptitude necessary to complete the A level courses successfully which cannot always be defined therefore our preference is to evaluate these factors on an individual basis, where possible. However, in general we would expect at least grade B/6 at GCSE across the range of subjects, particularly those relevant to A level choices. The exception to this is Mathematics, Science, Modern Foreign Languages and Art subjects where we expect at least grade A/7 in the relevant subject. The academic profile of our A level students varies as mentioned during the interview, although the majority have obtained at least A/7 and B/6 grades at GCSE. Applications from students who have achieved a grade 5 in the reformed GCSEs will be considered on an individual basis.

Admission for GCSE: Each year we accept a limited number of GCSE students. They comprise a mixture of students who have already completed Year 10 at school and are transferring to Brampton College for the final year of their GCSE programme, international students wishing to complete their GCSEs in one year and integrate into the UK educational system as well as those students who are resitting their GCSEs. Each student is interviewed by the Head of GCSE to assess their suitability for the course.

Special circumstances: We recognise that an applicant's performance at school may have been affected by particular circumstances, for example:

- If he/she is unwell when taking tests or has had a lengthy absence from school;
- If there are particular family circumstances such as a recent bereavement;
- If there is relevant educational history, for example education outside the British system;
- If the candidate has a disability or specific learning difficulties;
- If English is not the candidate's first language.

In any of these cases, we may request further information such as a medical certificate or an Educational Psychologist's report and any associated correspondence or details from the student's current school (including samples of work) or any family history of dyslexia, as we consider necessary to make a fair assessment.

Admission in August

Some students apply to study at the College in the period after the publication of the A level results. At this time each student will have a detailed assessment with the Principal or one of the Vice Principals, or a lead interviewer, and all the relevant subject teachers. We are looking to recruit hard working, well-motivated students with solid academic foundations. In cases of uncertainty we will set an assessment for the student or work that can be completed and returned at a later date. Successful applicants are issued with an offer letter and in order to enrol they need to complete an enrolment form and pay a non-refundable deposit of £950 to secure their place (£2,500 in the case of an international student). In the case of students resitting their A levels the interviewers look particularly carefully at what happened during their first sitting so that improvements can be made.