



Harrogate Ladies' College

Admissions Policy

1. Policy Statement

Harrogate Ladies' College aims to provide an all-round education for girls, providing a curriculum that helps to develop its pupils intellectually, morally, spiritually and creatively.

All applicants for admission are considered for a place without prejudice for their special needs, whenever it is possible to provide the help necessary.

Scholarships and bursaries are considered on an individual basis.

2. The Procedure

Usual entry points are at 11+, 14+ and 16+, though girls are admitted at other times, sometimes mid-year, when a family relocation or a need to move schools makes this necessary. Experience shows that the strong academic and pastoral support offered allows girls to integrate quickly and embark successfully on the appropriate Key Stage programme of study.

Admission at every level is dependent on some form of testing or assessment. The precise nature of this depends on the age of the girl applying. Testing is largely diagnostic rather than selective, allowing Heads of Year and Heads of Department to guide girls into suitable programmes of study. This is particularly true for those embarking on GCSE and A level courses.

Applicants who have registered for admission into Year 7 are invited to sit the Entrance Test, along with girls currently in Year 6 in Highfield Preparatory School, early in January. The test consists of a verbal reasoning paper, an English language paper (comprehension and extended writing) and a Mathematics paper (based on National Curriculum KS2 Mathematics). During the week following the test, girls and parents are invited to return for an interview with a senior member of staff. Girls and parents who have not already met the Headmistress will be invited to do so at this stage. Offers of places will then be sent out.

Arrangements can be made for girls who are not able to attend on Entrance Test Day in January and for girls who wish to apply for places in other year groups.

The school is always very happy for girls who are thinking of applying for a place to spend the day in school with their own year groups, attending lessons and 'tasting' a little of life at Harrogate Ladies' College. Girls applying for boarding places may stay overnight as part of the 'taster' experience.

Girls applying from overseas and for whom English is a second language take a language skills test to measure capability. This allows Heads of Year to advise with regard to choice of subjects, particularly at Key Stage 4 and 5.

When a girl transfers from another school, we also ask to see reports from the previous school.

If parents wish to proceed, a written offer is made and this includes a formal application form and requires a deposit to secure the place. On receipt of a written response, a Welcome pack of introductory information is provided to support the induction process.