



MILTON ABBEY

ADMISSIONS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Milton Abbey is an independent school for boys and girls aged 13-18 that accepts both day and boarding pupils. It is a mainstream school which offers comprehensive specialist learning support to pupils with mild to moderate learning difficulties like dyslexia. Small class sizes, 1:4 teacher to pupil ratio and deliberately small group and one-on-one tutor sessions, three times per week, all contribute to a strong pastoral provision. Milton Abbey's broad academic offer includes traditional GCSEs and A-Levels alongside more vocational BTEC subjects.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

Most prospective parents arrange to visit the school at least three years before the pupil is due to join. Parents and children are welcome at termly Open Days or to make an individual appointment at a time to suit themselves. Every visitor to the school meets the Headmaster, the Head of Admissions and a Housemaster/Housemistress, as well as having a tour of the school with a pupil. The visits are tailor made to take into account the pupil's interests and strengths; this can include meeting Heads of Departments and the Director of Sport. In the two years before entry, pupils are welcome at a Taster Day.

REGISTRATION

A child may be registered for admission at any time after birth. A non-refundable registration fee of £100 is charged and on receipt the child's name is added to the Provisional List, which reserves a place. Registration does not in itself guarantee a place at the school; the offer of a place is confirmed following their visit incorporating a meeting with the Headmaster and, when necessary, a successful Learning Support Assessment. Upon Registration, a reference from their current school will be sought.

ACCEPTANCE OF A PLACE

Eighteen months before entry, all those on the Provisional List are asked to confirm that Milton Abbey is their first choice and to pay a deposit of £1000. The deposit does not in itself guarantee a place at the school and entry is subject to candidates satisfying the entry requirements. If registration takes place within 18 months of the proposed date of entry to the school, the deposit is payable at the same time. The deposit is credited without interest to the final payment of fees or other sums due to the school. The order in which the Provisional List for any given year fills up is on a first come first served basis.

INTERNATIONAL PUPILS (NON EU / EEA)

Eighteen months before entry, all international pupils (ie non EU/EEA) on the Provisional List are asked to confirm that Milton Abbey is their first choice and to pay a fee deposit of £1000. The deposit does not in itself guarantee a place at the school and entry is subject to candidates satisfying the entry requirements. In addition, no later than 28 days from the date of acceptance or two months prior to the date of joining the school, the Overseas Deposit, which is one full term's boarding fee, is required; whereupon the £1000 deposit is credited to the Overseas Deposit. Pupils accepted into the school within two months of the start of term will be asked to pay the Overseas Deposit only and not the £1000 Confirmation Fee.

TIER 4 VISA PUPILS

Milton Abbey is a Tier 4 Sponsor for UK Visas and Immigration and therefore, licenced to support Confirmations of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) for Tier 4 Student Child Visas. Parents/Guardians will be provided with the school's guide on the documentation required; only once the Milton Abbey UKVI Compliance and Audit Manager is satisfied with the documentation provided will the school proceed with the CAS application.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry points: Third Form, Fourth Form and Lower Sixth.

The normal entry requirement is a 50% average across the board at Common Entrance for boys and girls entering Third Form (Year 9) and a satisfactory report from the pupil's current school. Level 1 Papers at Common Entrance are accepted if the pupil has been assessed by the school. Boys and girls who are not being prepared for Common Entrance are offered alternative entry papers in Maths and English, but all entrants must have a suitable reading comprehension age. The school is able to provide a very limited number of places for pupils who may not fulfil this requirement.

In addition to the above, a pupil with English as an additional language (EAL) should have, as a minimum, English level B1 (equates to PET, Cambridge Preliminary English Test) for pupils entering Third Form (Year 9) and B2 (equates to FCE, Cambridge First Certificate in English) for those entering Lower Sixth (Year 12), although final decisions are made on an individual basis. The school expects pupils to take an interest in the activities programme and contribute to the wider school community.

Entry requirements for pupils entering the Sixth Form (Year 12) are an interview/assessment visit, a satisfactory report from the Pupil's current school, and for those considering A-levels, a minimum of a B grade at GCSE in the chosen subjects.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Parents must declare if their child has a learning difficulty or other disability that may require specialist arrangements. Pupils with a history of learning difficulties will be invited for an assessment during the Summer Term of Year 7, at a time that is convenient for them. The visit also enables the child to take a closer look at Milton Abbey to see if he or she really likes the school community. It also gives the school the opportunity to assess the pupil's academic suitability and, at the same time, his or her compatibility with the other pupils in terms of shared community values and personal behaviour.

If the Learning Support department recommends that support sessions should be put in place upon entry, this will be a condition of admission. In some circumstances it will be recommended that a child does not study a foreign language but instead uses the time to reinforce his or her basic skills. In addition, some pupils will be offered a place on the basis of a reduced GCSE timetable.

The Learning Support department must have all the available relevant information and any requested documentation (including educational psychologists' assessments and previous school reports) before the offer of a place can be made. An evaluation of the appropriate support can then be made in the light of the school's available resources. A charge is made for extra learning support sessions, the current rates of which are available upon request.

The school may ask parents to provide updated psychological reports for examination or other purposes. The school may also ask parents for permission to have their child assessed by an educational psychologist should there be a need to further understand their learning profile or to apply/re-apply for exam concessions where applicable.

SIBLINGS

Siblings will not be offered automatic entry, but will have to fulfil our admissions criteria at the time of their entry. A sibling will, however, be given preference in cases of oversubscription to a year group. Siblings are entitled to a 5% discount on the fee during the period when the siblings are in the school together.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

The school is committed to broadening access and helping children who aspire to an education at Milton Abbey. Scholarships are awarded in competition and on merit in the following categories at:

13+ Disciplines

Academic, All Rounder, Art, Design Technology, Music, Sailing, Sport

16+ Disciplines

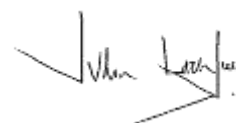
Academic, Art, Music, Performing Arts (Drama) and Sport

Scholarships at 13+ and 16+ carry a 10% remission on school fees but may be increased where financial need is demonstrated.

Dorset Scholarship

The Dorset Scholarship was an initiative launched in September 2015 aimed at Year 6 children who live in, or are at school in, Dorset. The 11+ scholarship will offer a 20% off the Day Fee and must be accepted whilst still in Year 6.

Bursaries are awarded on the basis of financial need and may either stand alone or may be available in addition to scholarships. Further details can be found on the school's website.



Julian Litchfield FCIPD
Bursar, November 2017