

Admissions Policy



WYCHWOOD
SCHOOL • OXFORD

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Reviewed By	RW, JE
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Entry Points

Wychwood School welcomes applications at 11+, 13+, and 16+, with additional entry points available in other year groups where appropriate. Entry is not normally offered into Year 11 or Year 13, as these are the second years of the two-year GCSE and A Level/BTEC programmes respectively.

Most pupils in Year 11 continue into Wychwood Sixth.

Admission Requirements

Wychwood is committed to fair, inclusive and non-discriminatory admissions in line with the Equality Act 2010 and the SEND Code of Practice. We welcome applications from a broad range of ability and backgrounds and assess each candidate's capacity to benefit from a Wychwood education.

Entrance assessments are diagnostic in nature and are not used as pass-fail examinations. They help us understand how best to support each pupil's learning and ensure they can access the curriculum. Reasonable adjustments are made for pupils with SEND or disabilities and we work closely with families to ensure appropriate support is in place.

Where possible, assessments are taken at Wychwood when required. However, overseas applicants may sit assessments at their current school with the permission of the Headteacher, or under secure, invigilated conditions at an approved agent's office.

An up-to-date school report is a critical part of the admissions process. Families should arrange for their child's current school to send this directly to Wychwood. We will also request a confidential reference from a named contact at the current school. If either document is not received, we will follow up directly with the school.

Every candidate is interviewed by the Head. This informal conversation is an integral part of the admissions process and helps us understand each pupil as an individual. Where an in-person interview is not possible (e.g. for overseas applicants), we will arrange a virtual interview via Teams, Zoom, or other online platform option. Ideally, this takes place before the entrance assessment day.

Assessment Format by Year Group

Year 7: Pupils take part in taster sessions across a range of subjects, which may include art, textiles, sciences, drama, sport, computing and other academic disciplines. This day offers a valuable opportunity to experience life at Wychwood and meet staff and peers. Where necessary, pupils will sit assessments in English and mathematics.

Years 8 and 10: A taster day may be arranged on request. Pupils are assessed in English and mathematics prior to entry in the September year of admission.

We recruit a broad range of ability, subject to our assessment that a pupil is likely to access a full programme of GCSEs and achieve a minimum of five grade 4s or equivalent. Reasonable adjustments are considered on a case-by-case basis for pupils with SEND.

International pupils who may not have followed a GCSE pathway will be assessed individually. It is expected that entrants will be able to participate in most, if not all, classes. English language proficiency is required, and additional EAL support may be arranged at the family's expense if needed.

Wychwood Sixth (Year 12 Entry)

Pupils considering Sixth form entry will be invited to attend a taster day if they wish and may sit papers in three of their proposed A Level or BTEC subjects. Where a chosen subject has not previously been studied (e.g. psychology), a general paper or subject-specific comprehension task will be set. Applicants for creative arts subjects are asked to submit a portfolio.

The minimum academic requirement is six GCSE passes at grades 9-4, including grades 9-6 in the chosen A Level or BTEC subjects (or higher where subject-specific criteria apply).

Acceptance of a Place

Acceptance of a place indicates the family's agreement to adhere to the school's terms and conditions and code of conduct.

(ISSRs Part 6 Para 32 3 a)