

## **FALKNER HOUSE ADMISSIONS POLICY Nursery - Year 6 (includes EYFS)**

All prospective parents must visit prior to their child joining the school. Parents are asked to complete a form (to be treated as confidential if the applicant or parents require) giving the school details of the nature and effect of any disability so as to enable it to consider any adjustments it might need to make<sup>1</sup>. Please see also the Falkner House Equal Opportunities Policy

### **Nursery**

Admission is by date of registration with preference given to siblings. Early registration is essential as only a limited number of registrations are accepted.

### **Main School**

Admission is by an assessment. Notice is taken of dates of birth, position in family, languages spoken and any disclosed special need. Admission depends upon a prospective pupil meeting the criteria required to maintain and, if possible to improve, the educational and general standards for all its pupils commensurate with the ethos to which the schools aspires. Falkner House has high academic standards and children are selected by perceived ability and aptitude. Early registration is essential as only a limited number of registrations are accepted because it is not felt ethical to assess a disproportionate number of children relative to the number of places more than about 150 pupils for the 22 places. The registration list is thus closed at an appropriate moment.

### **Reception**

- The Reception class is the main entry point to the Main School
- Children enter Reception in September in the Autumn term after their 4th birthday following assessments in January.
- Nursery pupils are assessed on the same criteria as outside candidates.
- The assessment is organised by the Lower School coordinator; children are seen on their own or in a group. All children are asked to complete the same tasks and detailed notes are taken both of their approach and the results. Every attempt is made to assess potential rather than current attainment.

### **Entry to Years 1 – 6**

- Children are admitted on an ad hoc basis dependent on there being a vacancy.
- Children may wish to transfer to Falkner House because their parents are moving to London from abroad or from within the UK. Some children may also wish to move from other London schools.
- The waiting list is generally irrelevant as potential pupils are usually well settled at an alternative school by the time a place becomes available.
- Children are invited to spend a day in the relevant class so that form and subject teachers can assess their level of knowledge and capabilities. The level of formality of written tests increases with age. The objective is to discover whether a child will settle happily into the school without compromising the rest of the class.

### **Sibling Policy**

- Every effort is made to accept siblings but this is not automatic. If the assessment gives cause for concern then the position is discussed with the parents.
- In general, a place will be offered if it is felt that the parents and the school will be able to work together in the best interests of the child.

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<sup>1</sup>If a prospective pupil has declared specific needs this is discussed with the parents prior to any assessment so that the school can give all appropriate consideration. Thus for example staff can wear microphones in the case of a child with hearing difficulties and assessments can be carried out in different languages. A child lacking the power of speech was assessed by the School in 2015 using props and with the assessment heavily modified to accommodate the child's needs. Children on crutches or in a wheelchair can be assessed without any difficulty