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FIDES et OPERA

**BROMLEY**  
HIGH SCHOOL

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**GDST**  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

# Admissions Policy

## **Bromley High School Admissions Policy**

*The procedures outlined below apply to all pupils and parents applying to Bromley High School, including Early Years Foundation Stage.*

### **Council Policy**

The admissions policy of the Council of the Girls' Day School Trust (the "GDST") is that:

- The GDST is committed to equal opportunities in education. Admissions to GDST schools will adhere to the GDST's Equal Opportunities Policy
- The GDST is firmly committed to offering a single-sex education for girls. In our experience, students in girls' schools are less constrained in their choice of subjects, show a greater propensity to take risks and innovate, perform better in examinations, have more opportunities to show leadership, and are less likely to conform to gender stereotypes. For these reasons, GDST parents and students choose a predominately single-sex environment over other available options
- GDST schools are broadly selective. Places are offered to prospective pupils on the basis of their potential to thrive in the educational environment provided
- Admission is usually dependent on achieving an acceptable standard in an assessment or examination appropriate to the age group and academic pace of the school. Such examinations and assessments are expected to be free of bias, and due consideration will be given to individual needs and prior educational experience in making any decision on the offer of a place. In exceptional circumstances, schools may adjust their established selection processes, provided that there is sufficient justification in doing so and the alternative procedure adheres to principles of fairness and transparency.
- The final decision regarding admissions rests with the Head, who reserves the right to decline to offer a place on grounds other than academic potential (e.g. a pupil's record at a previous school)
- Within these guidelines schools may determine their own admissions policies, which will set out their individual selection criteria
- Each GDST school sets out in its registration the age range of students it is legally allowed to make provision for. Major age range changes are subject to approval by Council. Admission will last until the student completes year 13 unless the parent contract comes to an end sooner.
- In all circumstances, including where a receipt is required for visa purposes, a parent contract (form F7) must be fully completed and submitted to the Fees Department, together with confirmation of the deposit payment (form F30), before the pupil can join the school.

### **Introduction**

Bromley High school is a member of the Girls' Day School Trust group of schools and this policy has been set out within the agreed framework for the Council policy.

Selection is based mainly on academic merit, assessment (usually made through an entry examination), an interview at the school, and references from a candidate's previous school or schools.

Bromley High School admits girls who fulfil the academic requirements of the School and will benefit from the opportunities offered. Any girl between the ages of 4+ (EYFS) and 16+ is eligible for entry provided she meets the academic requirements of GDST and the school and provided that there is a vacancy.

## **Admissions Procedures**

The admissions processes for the four points of entry (listed below) take place in the Autumn Term in the year prior to proposed entry. The selection procedures are adjusted according to the age of the applicants to ensure a balance of comfort, fairness and rigour.

### *Admissions at 4+*

- Girls and their families are invited for an orientation meeting on a Saturday morning in January.
- In the following weeks girls are assessed, in groups of 6, during the school day, for potential to join the school. These tests are carried out by Reception class teachers.
- Parents are notified of offers to join the school as soon as is practicable after all applicants have been tested.

### *Admissions at 7+*

- A small number of places are available for girls entering Y3.
- Assessments in Reading, General Mathematics, Mental Mathematics, Developed Ability and creative writing.

### *Admissions at 11+ (external candidates)*

- Families are invited to interview with a member of SLT
- A confidential report is sought from the candidate's school about her abilities (academic and co-curricular) and character
- Assessments: Quantitative and Verbal Reasoning cognitive ability tests, creative writing exercise (under review)

### *Admissions at 11+ (internal candidates)*

- Junior School girls will normally be allowed to enter the senior school subject to the professional judgement of the Headmistress of the Senior School that the pupils would flourish in the senior school.

### *Admissions at 16+*

- Provisional places will be offered
- An interview
- A confidential academic report from the candidate's school and excellent grade predictions.
- Places will be subject to the achievement of grades as specified in the letter of offer – it is normally expected that applicants will achieve at least an A grade in their intended A level options or allied subjects.

### *Admissions to other year groups*

- For Reception and early Year 1 entry girls are assessed by class teachers using the assessment materials used in class for ongoing assessments, including a piece of writing.
- From summer term of Year 1 the assessment is the same as for 7+ using an online adaptive system.

- Girls are assessed as spaces become available using the same process and tests as at 11+.
- The standard of comparison is with the relevant cohort in the school

### **Inter-School Transfers**

There is no automatic right of transfer from one Trust school to another; however, the transfer of existing Trust pupils between Trust schools, for example as a result of relocation, may be arranged subject to normal admissions procedures and availability of places.

### **Siblings**

Whilst we actively seek to accommodate siblings, entrance criteria must be met by each individual at the relevant age and level of entry.

### **Entry to the Senior School from Bromley High School Junior School**

Pupils have the right of entry from Year 6 to Year 7 unless we have reason to believe that they are unlikely to succeed or flourish in the Senior School.

On the basis of information gathered in Year 5 and before, parents will be informed in the Autumn Term of that year of the suitability of their daughter for entry to the Senior School. If we feel that the pupil may be below the qualifying standard of external candidates we will suggest that parents look for alternative senior schools.

All pupils in Year 6 wishing to be considered for a scholarship are required to sit the same 11+ entrance tests as all external candidates. This is in order to develop consistent academic quality in the year group and to ensure fairness of distribution of the award.

### **Selection**

The preconditions for selection are that:

- The candidate is of appropriate age and maturity
- Having made reasonable adjustments, the school is able to cope adequately for any special educational needs or disabilities the candidate may have (see further below)
- A satisfactory report from the candidate's school is obtained for Senior School.

The academic criteria for selection for the senior school are:

- Success in the entrance examination or at GCSE level (for 16+)
- A positive recommendation from the head teacher of the candidate's present school
- A satisfactory interview

Preference factors (subject to the selection criteria above) are that the candidate has special aptitudes or gifts; the school is looking for well-rounded and balanced pupils and those with exceptional abilities in sports, music and the arts.

Places will only be confirmed on receipt of a signed parental contract and deposit.

### **Equal Opportunities**

\*please see the [GDST Equal Opportunities policy](#)

### **Bursaries and Scholarships**

Bursaries are means tested; parents will be required to provide financial information with supporting evidence to the GDST. The level of bursary and parents' current financial circumstances will be reviewed annually. The award of a Founders' Award is entirely at the discretion of the Trust.

The award of a Scholarship recognises a candidate's exceptional ability in academic work or in art or music and provides a partial remission of annual tuition fees. Scholarship awards are subject both to satisfactory progress and behaviour.

**Disabilities, EAL and special educational needs**

The school has limited facilities for the disabled but will do all that is reasonable to comply with its legal and moral responsibilities (under the Equality Act 2010) in compliance with the GDST Equal Opportunities Policy in order to accommodate the needs of candidates who have disabilities for which, with reasonable adjustments, the school can cater.

The Admissions process does not discriminate against any applicant on grounds of ethnic origin, religious persuasion or disability. All reasonable steps are taken to avoid putting disabled pupils at a disadvantage during the admissions process. Candidates with disabilities will be considered for entry in line with the schools SENDA Policy.

Bromley High School will always try to make any reasonable adjustments to the admissions process to enable disabled or other special needs candidates to compete for a place at the school without disadvantage. Parents are asked to contact the Admissions Registrar to discuss adjustments that are desirable to meet their child's special needs. Candidates with special needs may be allowed extra time in entrance examinations, at the discretion of the Director of Admissions. Documentary evidence such as current Educational Psychologists reports should be submitted to the Admissions Registrar.