

### **1. Equal treatment**

Our aim is to encourage applications from candidates from a diverse range of backgrounds. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world.

Wycliffe College is committed to anti-discrimination by complying fully with the Equality Act 2010. No applicant is treated less favourably during the application process on the grounds of their skin colour, race, ethnic or national origin, gender, gender reassignment, religion or belief, sexual orientation, socio-economic group, disability or special educational needs.

### **2. Religious Beliefs**

Although Wycliffe College has Christian roots, we do not select for entry on the basis of religious belief, and we offer the opportunity for all Faiths to practise their own faiths. However, parents should be aware that there is a compulsory Wednesday Chapel service, and all pupils are expected to attend the assemblies and key community events. If a pupil has deeply-held religious belief that prevents them from attending the Wednesday service, a written request from parents asking specific permission from the Head to be excused will be needed. An alternative supervised time of reflection is arranged for those pupils who have opted out of attending the Wednesday service.

### **3. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

In line with the Equality Act 2010, Wycliffe College does not discriminate in any way regarding entry. We welcome pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities providing that, with reasonable adjustments, our Learning Support Department can offer them the support that they require. We welcome pupils with physical disabilities provided that our site can accommodate them, subject to any reasonable adjustments. We advise parents of children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us before entering the application process to ensure that we can make adequate provision.

The School may request further information, i.e. an Educational Psychologist's report; or a medical report; and associated correspondence from the pupil's current school that the School considers necessary to make a fair assessment regarding the School's ability to cater for the child's needs. Where the pupil has learning difficulties, our Head of Learning Support will meet with parents and the pupil to assess the pupil.

We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers where appropriate the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if he/she becomes a pupil at the School.

We welcome children with medical needs/physical disabilities and recognise that with appropriate support and reasonable adjustments most children can take part in normal school activities. Parents have prime responsibility for their child's health and should provide the School Medical Centre with information about their child's medical condition/disability before he/she is offered a place so that potential barriers to learning and participation are identified and, if necessary, additional arrangements are put into place prior to admission.

Parents of disabled children may be invited to a preliminary meeting with the Head to discuss ways in which reasonable adjustments can be made to ensure that the applicant can be adequately catered for should an offer of a place be made.

#### **4. The entry procedure**

Wycliffe College is an academically inclusive school. We base admission on:

- references from the candidate's previous school
- diagnostic testing (a CAT online assessment from GL Assessment) to ensure that they can access their chosen curriculum.

The School will do all that is reasonable to ensure the application process (and any information about the School) is accessible for disabled applicants and will make such reasonable adjustments as necessary. Parents are requested to inform the School of any special circumstances relating to their child which may affect their child's performance in the Admissions process.

#### **5. Scholarships**

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent and are awarded for outstanding performances in selected areas. They carry a financial award to the pupils who are awarded the Scholarship. In recognition of this achievement, the Scholar is offered a reduction in the fees throughout his/her time at Wycliffe. This is subject to annual review in respect of on-going satisfactory performance and the continuation of any individual subject award at GCSE or A level. Applicants may apply in more than one category.

If a candidate holds an existing Wycliffe Scholarship, and is awarded Sixth Form Scholarship, then this will replace the existing Scholarship, with a commitment that the new Scholarship will be at least equal in value.

The Head and Director of Finance and Operation determine how the available Scholarship awards are distributed between applicants. The number and size of awards will depend on the quality of the candidates. Scholarships are made at the discretion of the Head whose decision is final.

##### **5.1 13+ Scholarships**

For 13+ (Year 9) Scholarships, there are six areas of scholarship:

- Academic
- Art
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Music
- Sport

The assessments are taken in September and January prior to September entry.

##### **5.2 Sixth Form Scholarships**

For Sixth Form, there are four categories of scholarships:

- All-Round excellence
- Academic
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Creative, including Art, Design Technology, Drama and Music
- Sport

The academic scholarship assesses Verbal, Non-Verbal, Spatial and Quantitative Reasoning via the CAT4 testing system. In creative disciplines and other areas as appropriate, a portfolio of work may be requested.

For Sports Scholarships, it is expected that applicants are outstanding in at least one major sport (for boys: Cricket and Rugby, and for girls: Netball and Hockey, as well as Rowing and Squash for both boys and girls) that is offered at competitive level at Wycliffe. They may well also show potential in at least one other sport.

Music Scholars may, exceptionally, be permitted to not take Music A Level if they contribute significantly in other ways to the musical life of the school, as determined by the Director of Music.

The All-Rounder award recognises a significant commitment to Wycliffe life and the potential for further contribution. It is intended for applicants who might not perhaps be strong enough in any one individual category (e.g., Academic, Music, Sport, Drama etc.) to merit being awarded a Scholarship for that area but who might demonstrate significant capability and potential in two or more of the categories considered for specific, individual recognition. This award might also be given to an applicant who through involvement in charitable initiatives, the Combined Cadet Force, Duke of Edinburgh or other wider extra-curricular activities, has been identified as someone who might go on to make a significant and valuable contribution to the Wycliffe (and wider) community.

## **6. Transformational Bursaries**

In order to facilitate the accessibility of the College to families who would otherwise be precluded for financial reasons, the College makes available Transformational Bursaries each year to children who would benefit most a great deal from a Wycliffe education, but for whom the cost is completely out of reach.

The amount made available for Bursaries each year will vary depending on funds allocated by Trustees and not all applications for a Bursary will be successful. Transformational Bursaries will be provided in conjunction with our partner Royal National SpringBoard Foundation, a charity who aim to identify and match capable children from disadvantaged backgrounds with boarding schools where they will most benefit. Wycliffe is an accredited member of Royal SpringBoard.

Short term hardship bursaries are available to existing pupils in certain circumstances, where the family suffer sudden and unexpected financial hardship, such that a pupil may not be able to continue to attend Wycliffe without means tested assistance.

## **7. International Applicants**

Wycliffe has a long tradition of welcoming international pupils. We need to evaluate each applicant's level of English and so each applicant takes a CAT4 assessment (specific to their chosen year of entry) and hand writes an essay in English. We offer a place based initially on the results of these tests, plus any information obtained from school reports/reference and interview feedback from meeting them at a visit to Wycliffe or via video-call.

Wycliffe also carries out extensive pre-testing before the start of the academic year during the Pre-Sessional programme prior to the start of the Autumn term. If an applicant's English is not deemed sufficient, an alternative is provided through entry into the Development Year (age dependent). This decision is taken in conjunction with the parents and/or guardian and/or agent.

As well as possessing English language competence, international pupils should be able to demonstrate aptitude in academic areas to undertake Sixth Form studies. We assess a pupil's ability and potential from the academic reports we receive, and we make a judgement on suitability based on our knowledge and considerable experience of a specific country's education system and expectations. We take this into account when we decide to offer a place or advise on specific subject choices.

## **8. School's contractual Terms and Conditions**

Copies are on the School's website and are made available to parents as part of the admissions process.