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Admissions Policy for Europa School UK

Specialist in Modern European Languages and Science

Europa School UK is an all-age (4-19) school with specialisms of Modern European Languages and Science.

To benefit fully from attending this school, children will need to become proficient in both English and one or more Modern European Languages during their time at the school.

Apart from the 10% of any new applicants in Y7 – Y11 by aptitude in Modern European Languages, and those admitted to year 12, no account will be taken of an applicant's aptitude or ability when determining who is offered a place at the Europa School under this policy. However, parents should note when applying for their children to attend this school that it is a bilingual school where a significant part of the curriculum will be taught through the medium of Modern European Languages, with the post-16 qualification being the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

Admission Points

Europa School UK has two admission points:

1) At rising 5, in Reception. (Children are admitted to the reception class in the year children have their fifth birthday and we would encourage them to start attending classes in September of that year irrespective of whether they have already reached compulsory school age.)

2) At age 16, in Year 12.

Admission Number(s)

The Admission number in Reception from 2020 and thereafter is **90** pupils organised in three classes:

30 pupils for English/French

30 pupils for English/German

30 pupils for English/Spanish

Information concerning language preference will be collected but will not be used to determine to whom the school place should be offered.

The Trust will consider all applications for places at Europa School UK. Where fewer than

the published admission number(s) for the relevant language groups are received, the Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Intention to seek admission outside the normal age group should be notified to the Principal prior to an application. It will be considered by the Admissions Committee of the Europa School, taking into account relevant points in an education, health and care plan.

Oversubscription criteria

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. After the admission of pupils with a reference to Europa School being named in Section I of the EHCP the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

- A. Children who are looked after or have been previously been looked after by a local authority in the UK or were previously in state care outside the UK (e.g. adopted after being looked after by a public authority, a religious organization or another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society). These children are in the care of the local authority or provided with accommodation by the local authority (as defined by section 22 of the Children's Act 1989).
- B. Children who have siblings who already attend Europa School UK and who will still be on roll at the time of admission. (Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling). Biological siblings who live at separate addresses will also be treated as siblings. Children residing in the same household as part of an extended family, such as cousins, will not be treated as siblings. Proof of the sibling relationship will be required (e.g. short birth certificates).
- C. Children of staff employed by the Europa School, where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- D. From Year 7 onwards, up to 10% of places may be allocated per year group for children who demonstrate the greatest aptitude for modern foreign languages. These places will be based solely on aptitude for languages as assessed by an independent validated assessment process and not on ability.
- E. Children who live closest to one of the three nodal points set out below. This will be measured using straight-line measurements. Each nodal point has a different weighting, these being: Nodal Point 1 -50%, Nodal Point 2 - 35%, Nodal Point 3 – 15%.

The nodal points:

Node 1: Europa School UK Reception - GPS coordinates: Latitude 51°39'20.44"N / Longitude 1°15'30.79"W

Node 2: Oxfordshire County Council - City Hall (New Road) - GPS coordinates: Latitude

51°45'5.92"N / Longitude 1°15'40.60"W

Node 3: At the Grove Park Drive and Station Road (A338) junction – GPS coordinates:
Latitude 51°37'3.65"N / Longitude 1°24'35.02"W

Tiebreak (if needed)

In the event of a tiebreak being necessary at any criterion the remaining criteria will continue to be applied in order.

If a tiebreak reaches criterion E, the child living closest to the Node that is most under-represented in the current allocations compared to the ideal allocation according to the weightings for each nodal point will be offered a place. If the offer of a place is declined then the next nearest applicant in the tiebreak will receive the offer.

The address used for the calculation of distance will be the current address of the child (which might be different from that of that child's siblings at the point of their earlier admission). Distance is measured as a straight line from address to Node.

Should there remain a tie based on the calculated distances to the stated Node then a random allocation will be used.

There will be a right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel for unsuccessful applicants.

Post-statutory Admissions 16-19

The school welcomes students into the 6th Form, children who have demonstrated the following:

- They show a strong academic potential through their Year 11 exams or GCSE equivalents, with a minimum entry requirement of at least five Grades 5 to 9 or equivalent, including Mathematics and English Language. Grade 7 is required for the Higher Level courses
- They have been promoted from Year 11 to Year 12 or from an equivalent year group in another country
- They have the Linguistic capabilities to study in at least one of the Stream Languages offered by the school
- They have a sufficient level of English to follow the Group 1 (Language A) Higher or Standard Level English course.
- They have a sufficient level of English to follow the English subjects, which is at least B2 on the European framework of reference for languages

Short tests (including oral performance) may be applied for children from outside the school comparable with the tests applied for those progressing from Y11 in the school.

Bilingual children and children from other international schools will be especially welcome as they will contribute to the multilingual and multicultural ethos of the whole school.

Footnotes:

1. Europa School's teaching model means that pupils are taught some of the curriculum in English and some in the stream language of their class. The level of challenge in the non-English element increases as they move up the school. It is for that reason that Criterion D is used. The Department for Education School Admissions Code allows up to 10% of places in schools such as Europa to be allocated based on aptitude (but not ability) in modern foreign languages. The School strongly believes that this criterion will facilitate the more rapid integration and progress of secondary admissions.