



Rossall

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

ADMISSIONS POLICY

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ROSSALL SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Rossall is an independent co-educational boarding and day school from ages 0-19 located in Fleetwood, Lancashire in the United Kingdom.

ROSSALL SCHOOL MISSION

It is our mission at Rossall to educate – to enrich, enthuse, energise and empower the young people with whom we have the privilege to work. It is our mission to enable them to take up their place with courage, humanity and conviction as global citizens, friends, colleagues and partners in this increasingly complex world.

OUR VISION

Our vision for the School has five key themes:

Inspiring Intellectual Excitement and Academic Excellence

Rossall School inspires a lifelong love of learning through the outstanding quality of teaching and learning that it provides for young people. Children are encouraged to develop their intellectual interests beyond the confines of the formal curriculum and they are challenged to engage critically with the multitude of opportunities that the School provides to develop skills, knowledge and understanding. Children are encouraged to become self-motivated independent learners with an intrinsic desire to explore both the physical and metaphysical aspects of their existence. We are an open-minded community receptive to new ideas. Children are encouraged to share their ideas and learn through collaboration and debate.

Developing Compassionate and Caring Young People

Rossall School's unique educational offering provides a perfect context within which young people may acquire the emotional knowledge and interpersonal skills necessary to live happy and purposeful lives. The School's inclusive and progressive ethos is complemented by the outstanding quality of our School community which serves to nurture resilience and develop maturity. Young people leave Rossall with the confidence and strength of character necessary to pursue their personal dreams and fulfill their professional aspirations. Above all, the School endeavours to develop young people who are caring and compassionate and we provide an extraordinary diversity of opportunities for young people to develop these attributes.

Engendering Cultural Awareness and Artistic Creativity

Rossall School is committed to providing children with the opportunity to explore and develop their creative sensibilities through the outstanding quality of its performing arts and visual arts provision. Children are encouraged to develop their creative skills and their aesthetic sensibilities so that they may appreciate, comprehend and contribute to the world of infinite beauty that lies beyond the certainties of everyday life.

Ensuring Public Benefit

Rossall School is an internationally-minded community yet resolutely committed to the concept of localism. We recognise our extraordinary potential to serve the local communities of the Fylde Coast and we are committed to sharing our resources and skills with the people of Fleetwood and Blackpool.

The School is committed to ensuring that the lives of local people and communities are enriched by our presence. We are part of the rich fabric of this area of the North West and we actively embrace our social responsibility to serve others.

Promoting Sporting Excellence

Rossall is justifiably proud of its illustrious sporting history and recognises the many health and social benefits to be derived from regular exercise and participation in team sports. Striving for excellence within a sporting context helps young people develop transferable character attributes such as resilience, self-discipline and leadership skills. Alongside a lifelong love of learning, we provide an education which, for many young people, will result in an enduring love of sports.

An Education for the Future

Rossall is committed to ensuring that it prepares young people for an uncertain future by developing transferable skills within a technologically enriched and well resourced environment. A Rossall education is outward facing and encourages children to become politically literate and engage with themes of contemporary relevance such as environmentalism and humanitarianism.

POLICY AIMS

The aims of this policy are:

1. To ensure compliance with the School's charitable purpose and general school admissions guidelines. Rossall School is open to everyone in the clear understanding that the aims and vision underpin the ethos and life of Rossall School. Admission is neither restricted by location (region or worldwide) or by financial circumstances – excepting that overall there has to be a proper balance between income and expenditure such that the continuance of the School will not be financially put at risk.
2. To identify and admit children who are most suited to, and most likely to benefit from, the particular education and opportunities that Rossall offers. Although the School is non academically selective, a child's academic performance is a consideration in the admissions process undertaken by Rossall School as appropriate, in consultation with key staff, and this includes SEN pupils.

Equal Treatment

We welcome children from many different ethnic groups, background and creeds. Human rights and freedoms are respected but must be balanced with the lawful needs and rules of our school community and the rights and freedoms of others. All candidates for admission will be treated equally, irrespective of their or their parents' race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, orientation, property, birth or other status.

Admissions will be in accordance with the School's Policy on Equal Opportunities (Pupils). The Governing Body of Rossall School recognises its responsibilities under the Special Education Needs and Disability Act (SENDA) (2001), which established the right for disabled students not to be discriminated against in education.

We expect all of our pupils to attend Chapel and assemblies which are an integral part of school life.

All parents must be in sympathy with the School's aims and policies.

Feeder Schools

Rossall Senior School's main feeder school (at 11+) is Rossall Junior School, and Rossall Junior's main feeder school (at 4+) is Rossall Nursery. The School has good relationships with other independent and maintained nursery, pre-school, preparatory and primary schools in the region whose pupils comprise a significant proportion of the annual intake.

Age of Entry

Rossall School admits children at Nursery Level from age six months at whichever point this occurs in the school year. Children then move into full time education at Junior level (including Rossall Junior School) in the September of the academic year in which they turn five. Pupils are placed into one of three competitive houses: Assheton, Clifton and Hesketh from the Reception Class.

Rossall is a two or three set form entry school from Year 7, and an eight house school. Places are offered at all age group levels throughout the School, subject to availability. Rossall admits pupils throughout the year through a rolling admissions programme.

Very occasionally, we may offer places to pupils one year ahead or behind their standard year group, if we consider, as a matter of professional judgement that this would be in the best interests of the pupil and the School.

Boarding

All boarding at Rossall is in shared or single rooms. Boarding places are allocated according to the School's policy of grouping boarders by gender and age. There are eight boarding houses. Boarding houses include Anchor House for boys and girls aged between 7 and 13, Rose, Wren and Dolphin for Girls aged 13 to 18, and Maltese Cross, Mitre Fleur de Lys, Spread Eagle and Pelican for Boys aged 13-18. From Year 9 onwards, day pupils are placed into one of these houses in order to engender a strong sense of belonging to the school community, fostered through house events and house competitions.

Overseas Applicants

Rossall School encourages boarders from overseas and currently approximately 35% of the School's population is from overseas. International boarders are welcome to join the School from the age of seven, but may join at a later point in their school career.

- (a) Rossall welcomes applications from pupils who live overseas.
- (b) Rossall is licensed by the United Kingdom Visa and Immigration organisation to sponsor pupils who require visas to study in the United Kingdom. The School will issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) reference number to each pupil requiring a visa if he or she has been offered and has accepted a place to study at Rossall .
- (c) A pupil requiring a visa to study at Rossall should ordinarily apply for a Tier 4 student visa:
- (d) Rossall School employs the services of Newland Chase to support its International Pupils' Visa applications and renewals. Upon receiving an initial email from Newland Chase following a CAS Request form generated by Rossall School, it is the responsibility of the pupil requiring a visa and of his or her parents to apply to the United Kingdom Visa and Immigration Agency for a visa at the appropriate time and with the correct documentation as advised and supported by Newland Chase. and to inform Rossall that an application is being made.

(e) Rossall will at all times comply with the rules and procedures of the United Kingdom Visa and Immigration organisation.

(f) All enquiries about visa applications should be made to the Admissions Office. Members of the Admissions team are authorised to sign a letter supporting a pupil's or prospective pupil's application for a visa in the UK or issue a CAS request form.

(g) All overseas pupils are required to have a guardian resident in mainland UK who is prepared to be responsible for that pupil should an emergency situation occur. That Guardian will be asked to sign a declaration to show that they understand their responsibilities and duties to the pupil. A Guardian is needed to act for the pupil in an emergency throughout the whole time the pupil resides at Rossall School, even if that child turns 18 whilst at the School.

Former Pupils and Siblings

The School especially welcomes the children of former pupils.

In keeping with the School's family ethos, every effort is made to accommodate children from the same family, and, where applicable, across Rossall.

Where two or more siblings attend Rossall, the governors will provide an automatic fee discount.

Staff Discount

Rossall School staff, both teaching and non-teaching, work extremely hard to support the education of the School's pupils and the smooth running of the School. In recognition of this fact, and the fact that the School supports a warm and family centred environment, staff members receive a discount on school fees to support sending their children to the School. Details of this are available on request.

Entrance Procedures

Rossall School operates entrance procedures in accordance with HMC guidelines.

Our UK admissions procedure has nine elements:

1. Registration which includes enquiry, visit and filling in our registration form; a non-refundable fee of £75 for UK pupils will need to accompany the completed form along with a copy of a birth certificate or passport. Taster days on their own before the assessment day for Years 7, 9 and 12 do not require a registration form and fee.
2. School reports (from current school).
3. Character references (these will usually be from the Head of a candidate's current school and will make reference to the candidates academic ability, attitude and behaviour, involvement in the school community, talents and interests and any other special circumstances that should be made known).
4. Entry assessments / examinations (for entry into the Senior School in Years 7, 9 and 12 and for Scholarship entry only).

5. Taster day at the School (all parents/guardians will need to fill in a medical form and taster day form for the taster day. During the Junior taster day, children of all ages will be assessed in life skills including social, communications, thinking and research.
6. If a child has identified special educational needs or may require learning support whilst at school then an appointment will also be made with a member of the Learning Development department as part of the admissions process.
7. Offer decision (Headmaster's decision is final).
8. Parent Contract and deposit along with medical forms and school rules form to be returned.
9. Acceptance letter and welcome pack to be sent to family.

Our admissions procedure for overseas pupils has ten elements:

1. Registration (including enquiry, visit and filling in our registration form) along with both a copy of a passport and birth certificate;
2. School reports (from current school).
3. References / character references (these will usually be from the Head of a candidate's current school and will make reference to the candidates academic ability, attitude and behaviour, involvement in the school community, talents and interest and any other special circumstances that should be made known).
4. English essay or personal statement / English test (IB Pupils also have to sit a Science test) [These help us to comply with UKVI requirements].
5. Visit or Telephone / SKYPE Interviews with the Headmaster, Deputy Head, Head of Sixth Form, Head of EAL, or a member of the Registry team.
6. Offer decision (Headmaster's decision is final)
7. Parent contract, deposit and registration fee along with medical forms and school rules to be returned. Additionally, we require a parent's consent letter giving approval for their child to board and study at Rossall.
8. Acceptance letter and welcome pack to be sent to family.
9. Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies produced for all International pupils to obtain a Visa to study at Rossall following receipt of all correct supporting documentation
10. Guardian forms to be filled in for all International pupils from outside mainland UK.

The above tests do not apply to pupils applying for the Nursery up until Year 2. From Year 3 to Year 6, pupils will be informally assessed in core subjects (English and Maths) on a taster day.

To enter Rossall School in the Sixth Form, UK pupils need to obtain five good grades at GCSE. For overseas pupils entry is dependent on gaining Language Level B2 for Tier 4 pupils and PET 1 for internal overseas pupils (pupils already at Rossall).

It is important that pupils have the requisite knowledge and skills needed to be able to access the curriculum and succeed in their studies. Rossall uses a variety of methods to ensure that pupils can access the curriculum including specialist teaching, small group work and targeted in-class support.

Ability and progress are reviewed at the end of each Key Stage of education to ensure that the pupil can access the education that is provided. This may include an assessment of behaviour and social development. There is therefore no automatic progression from one Key Stage to the next. Occasionally, the curriculum can be modified for an individual pupil but in these cases additional charges may be incurred; the published fee list relates to a standard curriculum.

Additional Factors

In the event of oversubscription of children who meet our admission requirements, then consideration will be given to the following:

- a) A child who already has a brother / sister in the School; a sibling who was previously at the School, or whose parent is a former pupil of the School;
- b) A child who is not registered elsewhere;
- c) A child whose parent is a member of our staff;
- d) A child with a particular skill, talent or aptitude;

Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN)

- All pupils applying for entry between Infant Level (Reception Class) to Senior School (Year 13) and whose parents have indicated SEN requirements on the registration form will need to submit any previous assessments for consideration. A prospective pupil may be invited to meet with the Head of Learning Development ~~Support~~ for an interview or tests at the taster day stage of the admissions process.
- There is no automatic progression from Infant to Junior School or from Junior School to the Senior School. Ability and progress will be reviewed at the end of each Key Stage. Parents will be given at least a term's notice if it is considered that their child will require additional help to continue at Rossall which could incur additional fees or, indeed, if it is felt that an alternative school should be sought.
- The quoted fees are those for a standard curriculum. If the curriculum has to be modified to suit a particular child then additional charges may be incurred.

Bursaries and Scholarships

The School aims to reach out to the wider community irrespective of social and/or economic circumstances, and accordingly provides bursary assistance depending on individual and family needs and circumstances. Bursaries are only awarded for pupils in Year 7 and above up to a maximum of 80% and on occasion 100% of the fees where applicants provide up to date information about their financial circumstances, including documentary support. Such information is treated in strict confidence and bursaries are awarded on the understanding that parents will respect this confidence. These will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Bursary Committee which includes the Headmaster and Bursar. *Pupils must be registered before any bursary application is made.*

In order to attract and reward pupils of a high academic, musical, artistic, sporting, dramatic or all-round ability and potential, the School offers a number of scholarships each year.

Scholarships are given at 11+, 13+ and in the Sixth Form. These awards will be reviewed on an annual basis. For more details about scholarships and bursaries, please visit the following link

<https://www.rossall.org.uk/admissions/scholarships>

Admissions Appeals

We hope that you and your son or daughter are satisfied with our admissions process. However, if any aspect of our admissions procedure gives you cause for concern, or you wish to appeal a decision, please refer to the Complaints and Appeals Procedure – parent and general public which is also available by hard copy on request.

Last Review – January 2021