

Reading School
Admission Arrangements for Year 7 Boarders in 2011 / 2012



Co-ordinated secondary admissions

Reading School's admissions process is in line with the co-ordinated secondary school admissions scheme as set out in the DCSF Code of Practice 2009. These arrangements set out how Reading School will handle applications for admission to the School for Year 7 boarding.

Application for a place

All applications from parents *who reside in England* are covered by the co-ordinated admissions arrangements in which parents make an application to the Local Authority (LA) in which they live. Boarding applications are now part of this scheme and applications will be made on the appropriate Local Authority (LA) common application form. Parents/carers may express up to 3 preferences and give reasons for those preferences. Applications must also be made directly to Reading School.

For parents *who reside outside England*, applications should be made directly to Reading School only.

Parents should expect to receive an acknowledgement of their application from Reading School.

Only weekly boarding is available.

For entry in September 2011 a boy's date of birth will fall on or between 01.09.99-31.8.00 and he **must** be working in Year 6 at the time of testing.

Reading School Admissions Numbers

The admission number for Year 7 boarding places is a maximum of 12.

Entrance Tests

The entrance tests will be taken at Reading School.

There will be three tests each of length approximately one hour.

They will cover

- i) Reasoning [verbal and/or non-verbal (abstract)],
- ii) English

and

- iii) Mathematics.

Only the reasoning test will be multiple choice. All tests will build on current good practice adopted in primary schools and the English and mathematics tests will be based on the National Curriculum. They will be tests for which ***no additional preparation is necessary***. No past papers are available and no further information with respect to the tests will be given. Allowance will be made for a pupil's age.

Timetable

The admissions process for routine admission into Year 7 of a secondary school in 2011/12, the routine admission round, begins in July 2010 and ends on 31 August 2011.

The tests will take place at Reading School on Thursday 6 January 2011 and the LA will offer places to English applicants on behalf of Reading School on 1 March 2011. Reading School will offer places to parents who reside outside England on 1 February 2011.

Deadline of receipt of applications

The deadline for receipt of applications to Reading School is Tuesday 4 January 2011. Residents in England must apply to their LA by 31st October 2010 as well.

Applications received after the deadline

Applications received after the deadline will be treated as late applications. However, applications that are received late for a good reason may be considered, if received before 20 January 2011. Such cases might be if illness prevented a single parent/carer from returning the form on time, if the reason for lateness is supported in writing by a medical professional involved in the case. Any such candidates will be tested on 21 January 2011.

Admissions outside of the routine admissions round - Non-routine admissions

Applications for entry to Year 7 after the end of the routine admission round and applications for entry to Years 8 - 11 at any time are treated as non-routine admissions. Applications must be made to Reading School in addition to the LA.

Special Educational Needs

The parents of any child with special educational needs or a disability, who are applying for a place at the School, should write to the Special Educational Needs Coordinator so that the School can make appropriate provision for the entry tests.

Fraudulent Applications

Any information that is subsequently proven to be inaccurate will potentially invalidate that application.

Treatment of Applications

All applicants who reside in England must select Reading School as a preference on the common application form and will be eligible to be tested at Reading School, wherever Reading School is placed on the form. However parents are strongly advised to consider carefully whether it is in their best interest to place Reading School or an alternative school as first choice on the preference list. In the majority of cases, parents will need to place Reading School as first choice as under the new code all other admissions authorities must operate an equal preference scheme.

Oversubscription Criteria

The following oversubscription criteria will be applied if there are more applicants than places available. All applicants will be ranked according to their performance in the test. A cut-off point will be determined, below which students will be deemed not to benefit from the style of education provided at Reading School.

Initially all places will be offered to the first 12 applicants in the ranking (subject to a) to c) below) who are above the cut off point, provided that they are not in a position to receive an offer of a place at another school that has been placed as a higher preference.

There are three special categories:

If an applicant satisfies the condition above and is ranked above the cut off point to be deemed to benefit from the style of education provided at Reading School and falls into any of the following categories, then he will be offered a place even if he is not ranked in the top 12 places. The three categories are:

- a) The applicant has a statement of special needs and has named Reading School specifically on the statement.
- b) The applicant is a child in care.
- c) The applicant has a boarding need.

Each successful applicant satisfying a), b) or c) above will reduce by one the number of places available to be offered.

A waiting list will be drawn up from the remaining students who satisfy the condition above and who are ranked above the cut-off point. This waiting list will be used to offer further places if any original offers are declined.

The tie-break situation

If two or more borderline applicants have the same ranking, then places will be allocated randomly.

Boarding need

Children with a boarding need include:

- i) Those at risk or with an unstable home environment.
- ii) Children of members of the British forces overseas and of other key workers and Crown Servants working abroad.

Children who are not in the normal age group

Such boys must be studying in Year 6 at the time of testing.

Only in highly exceptional circumstances will applications be accepted from any boy whose birth date is before 01.09.99 or after 31.12.00.

Applicants who sit the tests early, i.e. whose date of birth falls on or between 01.09.00-31.12.00, and are not successful, will only be permitted to apply again the following year provided they are repeating Year 6. Written confirmation from the school will be requested. Any boy who has moved on to Year 7 will not be accepted.

Offer date

On the national offer date of 1 March 2011 the home LA will inform all parents/carers, residing in England, of the school allocated to their child. On 1 February 2011, for applicants who reside outside England only, Reading School will also inform parents how their sons have performed in the tests and make offers of places, when applicable.

Waiting lists

During the routine admission round a 'waiting list' will be administered if the school has more applicants than places available. A child's position on the waiting list is determined according to the oversubscription criteria that applied to applicants at the time of original allocation of places. Reading School will keep a waiting list open until 31st January 2012. This list will be made available to the LA who will offer places on our behalf for parents who reside in England. From 1 March 2011, Reading School will offer places when appropriate to parents who reside outside England.

Boarding Regulations

Boarders must have suitable accommodation outside School for the weekends. This must be provided by the family or a guardian. Reading School regrets that it is unable to assist in finding a guardian.

Passport Requirements

All students must be entitled to hold a full British Citizen passport, be a national of the European Economic Area or have the right of residence in the United Kingdom. The holding of a British Overseas or British Dependent Territories passport does not make a child eligible for a State Boarding School education, neither does a temporary student visa.