

## E.19 Admissions Policy

Policy Last Reviewed:-	January 2017
Next Review:-	January 2019
Review Initiated by:-	Head Master

E.19.1 Birkdale School's Mission Statement says:

*"Birkdale is an independent school for boys aged 4-18 and for girls in the Sixth Form. The Christian faith is of central importance to Birkdale. Stemming from this, our core values are care and respect for all, commitment to each other and to the school, and the pursuit and celebration of excellence. We aim to give all pupils a strong academic education, while developing them as whole individuals prepared for their wider role as responsible citizens willing to serve the community."*

E.19.2 The normal points of admission to the school are at the beginning of the academic year in September at ages 4, 7, 11 and 13 (for boys) and 16 (for boys and girls).

At age 4 there are no formal entry requirements for entry into PP1 (or Reception). It is expected that parents will visit the school with their son prior to entry and, with parental consent, reception teachers visit the boys in their nurseries. This visit follows the formal offer of a place.

At age 7, entry into P1 (or Y3) is by assessment through nationally used papers in Maths, English and Reasoning. This is usually supported by reference to the entrant's most recent school report.

At age 11, entry into S1 (or Y7) is through the Entrance Examination usually taken in the January of the calendar year of entry. It is normally expected that boys will proceed from Birkdale Prep School to Senior School although this is subject to a satisfactory Entrance Examination performance.

At age 13, entry into S3 (or Y9) from Preparatory Schools is through the Common Entrance Examination taken in the summer of the calendar year of entry. Boys joining from other types of school will be asked to sit a proprietary test in Mathematics and English.

At age 16, entry into the Lower Sixth (or Y12) is dependent on GCSE results and on interview which will explore candidates' willingness to be involved in the wider life of the School.

For entry at other times an appropriate academic test must be taken. At all points of entry, a reference will be sought, where relevant, from the applicant's present school.

Entry is always subject to adequate academic performance, to satisfactory school reference and to space being available.

E.19.3 Before a pupil is admitted to the School, parents must disclose to the School in confidence any known medical condition, health problem or allergy affecting the

pupil, any history of a learning difficulty on the part of the pupil or any member of his/her immediate family, or any family circumstances or court order which might affect the pupil's welfare or happiness, or any concerns about the pupil's security.

- E.19.4 Pupils with special needs or learning difficulties will be admitted if the School can adequately meet their needs by providing a safe and appropriate environment for them and an appropriate curriculum, while also having due regard for the safety and needs of other pupils in the School. In line with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001, Birkdale will make any reasonable adjustments necessary to accommodate a pupil having a disability or special educational need.