



## LOWER SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY

### AIM

To clarify the principles guiding the admission of pupils.

### 1.0 ADMISSIONS

- 1.1 Our Lady's Abingdon Lower School considers for admission any pupil for whom it is able to provide an appropriate education. Although OLA is a Roman Catholic School, girls and boys of other Christian denominations and religions are warmly welcomed, as are pupils of none.
- 1.2 The main intake is at the age of 7, although pupils may be accepted into any Year Group where there are vacancies. Depending on the availability of places, entry may be offered at other ages, at the discretion of the Principal.
- 1.3 Pupils are selected on the basis of application, previous reports (where applicable) and parents' interview. Pupils may also be asked to visit the school on one or more days prior to the term in which the place is required. The School will wish to ascertain the previous attainment of pupils entering all year groups. If it is not possible to offer a place immediately, a pupil's name may be placed on a waiting list.
- 1.4 Policies and bursaries are available and the details of these are published separately.
- 1.5 OLA recognises the wish of many families for siblings to be educated together and it will therefore always offer places to younger brothers and sisters as long as it is able to provide for their needs.
- 1.6 Parents/guardians of boys and girls applying for a place at OLA should keep their existing schools properly informed. The School cannot accept a pupil if fees are still owing to the previous school.

### 2.0 EQUAL TREATMENT

- 2.1 Our aim is to encourage applications from candidates from a diverse a range of backgrounds. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world. Our Lady's Abingdon is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background and this commitment is carried through in our curriculum provision, our planning and our pastoral care.

### 3.0 SPECIAL NEEDS

- 3.1 Subject to our entry requirements being met, we welcome pupils with special educational needs or physical disabilities, providing that our learning support department can offer them the support that they require and provided that our site can cope with their needs.
- 3.2 However, we advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us before they enter into the admissions process. This will enable the School to determine if their needs fall within the scope of the provision

*Junior School Admissions Policy: Reviewed Michaelmas 2020*

*OLA is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.*

provided and also determine whether the nature of the School site can accommodate the needs of those children with physical difficulties. Where necessary, parents should provide a copy of an Educational Psychologist's report or a medical report to support their application.