



Maidstone Grammar School for Girls

Non sibi sed omnibus

Sixth Form Admission Generic Defence Statement Admission Appeal for Year 12 in September 2023

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Introduction

Appeals are received from students that have not met the school's entry criteria for the Sixth Form at Maidstone Grammar School for Girls (MGGS) inline with Appendix One.

The Independent Appeal Panel will be asked to decide whether or not student appealing should be allocated a place at MGGS into Year 12 for 2023-2024 intake.

Background Information

1. Places at MGGS have been allocated in accordance with school's Admissions Policy 2023-2024 (see Appendix Two).
2. MGGS' Sixth Form entry criteria is:
 - At least a grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature
 - At least a grade 5 in Mathematics
 - At least 6 GCSE subjects of grades 9 - 5
 - There are specific entry requirements for each A level subject.*

*Students will be expected to enroll on a two year, full time, planned programme of study. Appeals are for a place at MGGS do not include a planned programme of study.

Context

It is not possible to allocate a place at **MGGS** because the student does not meet our Sixth Form entry criteria.

MGGS has adhered to our published admissions policy and entry criteria, including subject entry criteria. All applicants, both internal and external have been treated equally and fairly in the application of these criteria. The admission arrangements for Sixth Form are published on our School website.

MGGS for Year 12 entry in the academic year 2023-24 is currently oversubscribed. The Published Admission Number (PAN) is 180. To admit further students would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.

There are 39 teaching groups in Year 12, with a maximum class size of 27 students, practical and Science subjects are limited to 20 per class for health and safety reasons. The subjects are organized into 4 blocks for timetabling, which were designed to accommodate as many options choices as possible (they are not preset). High demand subjects have multiple classes across multiple blocks and students are allocated to these according to the best fit for their programme of study and with the aim to keep class sizes balanced.

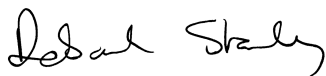
Context of the School Buildings:

The school is due to have a new building to accommodate an extra form of entry in Year 7 which has been admitted as of September 2023. The construction started in August 2023 and is clearly not available to use. This means the whole school including the sixth form is under significant pressure of space.

- The school is at full capacity in respect of its legal requirements for student toilets within the buildings. To go over PAN puts the school in breach of its legal and Health and Safety responsibilities, with respect to toilet provision.
- The main school building at MGGS is over 80 years old with narrow corridors.
- Some classrooms are not accessible for students with mobility issues and ensuring these students can access their education can create knock-on consequences for classroom availability.
- The corridors in the 1960s extension are also narrow and there is significant congestion during lessons changeover, particularly in our 1960s block which houses Mathematics, Geography and Design Technology. Students are required to work in close proximity to each other in classrooms.
- There is a very poor quality 1960s extension (which houses Design Technology). To take more than 20 students per class would be in breach of health and safety recommendations for Design Technology lessons due to the size of the rooms.
- There is also a limit to specialist equipment in Science Laboratories and Design Technology lessons. More than 20 students in such classes would be detrimental to health and safety requirements.
- SEN statistics – the school does not employ any Teaching Assistants.

Conclusion

The appellants's preferred school is MGGS. It has not been possible to offer a place at MGGS because the student does not meet our Sixth Form entry criteria.



Miss Deborah Stanley, Headteacher
Appendix One

September 2023

Sixth Form Entry Criteria

- Students must be 16 years of age by 31st August of year of entry into Year 12.
- Admission to the Sixth Form will be as a result of applicants achieving:

- At least a grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature
 - At least a grade 5 in Mathematics
 - At least 6 GCSE subjects of grades 9-5
 - The specific entry requirements for each of their chosen subjects. Please note that we adhere to our subject entry criteria strictly, and therefore, students who meet the minimum entry criteria but are not eligible for their chosen subjects will be offered an alternative programme of study.
- Priority will be given to existing students transferring from Year 11 who meet the entrance criteria.

Admissions Policy for entry September 2023-2024

Sixth Form Admissions September 2023

Priority will be given to existing students transferring from Year 11 who meet the entrance criteria. Admission to the Sixth Form will be as a result of applicants achieving:

- At least a grade 5 in either GCSE English Language or English Literature
- At least a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics
- At least 6 GCSE subjects of grades 9 - 5
- The specific entry requirements for each A level subject.

Students without a grade 6 in English Language or English Literature are likely to find the choice of subjects which they can access is restricted.

The admission number for external candidates will be 50 but this figure may be exceeded in the event that this and the number of internal students transferring into Year 12 is less than the overall figure for the year group.

Students will be expected to enrol on a two year, full time, planned programme of study.

International students may also be admitted to the Sixth Form, but are required to provide certified evidence that they have achieved the equivalent of Mathematics and English grade 5 at GCSE level.

Requests for admission to Year 12 outside of the normal age group should be made to the Headteacher at the point of applying for a place for the Sixth Form.

Where a parent is requesting for their child to apply a year early, parents are required to contact the school outlining the fact that their child will have achieved their GCSEs on entry to Year 12.

Where a parent is requesting for their child to apply a year later than expected, they should **make their request at the earliest opportunity**. Parents must give details of all secondary education their child has received and details of why they are applying a year later than expected.

Applications to join the sixth form should be made to the school. Full details are available in the sixth form prospectus and curriculum information booklet are available on our website.

All offers made during Year 11 are conditional on students meeting the grade criteria specified and will only become firm offers upon confirmation of actual GCSE results. Students who do not approach the school until after they have received their results will only be considered after all conditional offer students and those on the waiting list.

Offers made will also take into account the capacity in the subjects chosen. Some courses may become over-subscribed even though the overall admissions number has not been reached. Where appropriate a reserve subject would be considered.

Oversubscription Criteria for Maidstone Grammar School for Girls

Internal Candidates:

We give priority for places to students currently in Year 11 at our school, provided they have met the entry criteria.

External Candidates:

External Candidates must meet the same academic entry requirements as internal candidates.

In the event of over subscription, priority will be given to those who fulfil the entry criteria, in the following order:

- Eligible students who are looked after and previously looked after children: A looked after child or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who is:
 - (a) in the care of a local authority, or
 - (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).Children previously in Care outside of England - Children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.
- Eligible students who are likely to achieve the highest academic grades based on GCSE predictions from their current school. GCSEs already certified will be counted. The number of grade 9s will be the first measure, then grade 8s and so on. The school will be the sole arbiter of measures of equivalence when students have sat examinations other than GCSEs. IGCSEs are considered to be equal to GCSE grades.
- In the event of a tie breaker situation, the nearness of an applicant's home to school will be the decider.

Offers

Offers will be confirmed once the school has been notified of GCSE results in August 2023. We would not normally accept a student into Year 12 after September 2023. We do not normally accept students into Year 13.