Herschel Grammar School – Determined Admissions Arrangements

September 2028 Entry

Admissions to Year 7

1. The school's planned admission number (PAN) is 150.

2. Students will be admitted at the age of 11 on the basis of their ability as determined by their performance in the 11+ entrance examination set and administered by the Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools. Children must be registered for the examination through the portal accessed from any of the consortium grammar school websites; there is a six-week window for registration in May and June 2027. The full procedures for testing are outlined in the Slough Consortium of Grammar School - a Guide to the 11+ Test document published annually by the Consortium in line with the requirements of the School Admissions Code and which forms part of the determined admissions arrangements. (please note the change of 11+ test provider for the 2027 test; please click here for more information.)

3. Children whose Education, Health and Care Plan names Herschel Grammar School will be admitted before the application of any oversubscription criteria. (Note a).

4. A standardised score of 111 or above in the entrance examination means that an applicant is eligible for consideration for admission to the School.

5. Where the number of eligible pupils reaching the required standard in the 11+ entrance examination exceeds the number of places available, places will be allocated according to the following oversubscription criteria in this order of priority:

(i) Looked after Children who are being accommodated, or who have been taken into care by a local authority under section 20, 31 or 38 of the Children Act 1989 (Note b).

(ii) Pupils living within the school catchment area, which is defined as a home address within 4 miles of the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance gate of the school, using a Geographical Information System (GIS), with those closest to the school receiving the higher priority
See Appendix 1 for the map.

(iii) Up to a further 10 places will be offered to eligible applicants with a home address within 10 miles of the school who are eligible for the Pupil Premium at the closing date for submission of the Common Application Form (Note c). Distance will be measured as stipulated in section 5 (ii).

(iv) Children of permanent members of the school staff who have been continuously employed by the school for a period of not less than 2 years before the closing date for applications.

(v) The remaining places, up to the PAN of 150, will be allocated to pupils in rank order of performance in the examination. Where multiple applicants achieve the same score, each score will be ranked in order of proximity to the school, with those living closest receiving higher priority.

In the event of one or more eligible pupils being tied for a final place or places within criteria (ii), (iii) or (v), priority will be decided according to proximity to the school. Distance will be measured as stipulated in section 5 (ii).

Tie-breaker. Where two or more children live an equal distance from the school, random allocation supervised by someone independent of the school will be used as a tie-breaker to determine the order in which places are allocated.

6. Once all offers of places have been made according to section 5 above, any remaining applicants who have demonstrated eligibility for a place through scoring 111 or above in the 11+ examination

but were not offered a place initially due to over-subscription will be placed on a waiting list. The position of each applicant on the waiting list is determined through the application of the over-subscription criteria above. Each time an applicant joins or leaves the waiting list, the rank order of remaining applicants will be reassessed.

If a new applicant expresses an interest in joining the waiting list, his/her position will be assessed through the administration of the 11+ examination, provided the eligibility score of 111 is reached. Accordingly, the position of other applicants on the waiting list will be redrawn.
The waiting list will operate until 31 December 2028.

In-Year Admissions to Year 7-11

No child will be admitted to the school, other than at the start of Year 7, unless there are available places and:
(i) They are transferring from another grammar school within the Slough Consortium, or
(ii) Are successful in the school's in-year entrance examination relevant to their year of entry.

Applicants who have previously sat the Consortium 11+ test for entry into Year 7, but did not attain a score of at least 111 cannot be considered for in-year entry in Year 7 to avoid repeat testing for the same year of entry

Requests for admission into the school, other than at the start of Year 7, will be made directly to the school. Applications for in-year admission can be submitted at any time during the school year. Please contact the school or visit https://www.herschel.slough.sch.uk/admissions/in-year-admissions/ for in-year admissions information and an online link to the application form.
Upon receipt of an in-year application, the school will notify parents of the date of the entrance examination relevant to their child's year of entry, in writing, within 15 school days. Entrance examinations will be held three times per academic year; one in the second half of the Autumn Term, one in the second half of the Spring Term and one in the second half of the Summer Term.
Only **one** in-year entrance examination can be sat for the year of entry, except where the school determines that exceptional circumstances apply.
Parents will be informed of the outcome of the entrance examination within five days of the examination. Parents will be informed whether or not an applicant is eligible for consideration for admission to the School. Being 'eligible' does not guarantee a place at Herschel Grammar School

If pupil numbers in a year group are below the published PAN in the first half of the Autumn term, and there are no applicants on the school's waiting list, the school will run an additional entrance examination for pupils who meet the criteria above.

Where the school has spaces available, the following oversubscription criteria will be used where the school is considering more than one in-year application at the same time and there are not enough spaces to accept all eligible applicants:
(i) Looked after Children who are being accommodated, or who have been taken into care by a local authority under section 20, 31 or 38 of the Children Act 1989 (Note b).
(ii) Pupils living within the school catchment area, which is defined as a home address within 4 miles of the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance gate of the school, using Slough's Geographical Information System (GIS), with those closer to the school receiving the higher priority
(iii) Up to a further 10 places will be offered to eligible applicants with a home address within 10 miles of the school who are eligible for the Pupil Premium at the closing date for submission of the Common Application Form (Notes c). Distance will be measured as stipulated in section 5 (ii).
(iv) Children of permanent members of the school staff who have been continuously employed by the school for a period of not less than 2 years prior to the closing date for applications.
(v) The distance the pupil lives from the school, measured in a straight line, using the Local Authority's computerised mapping system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority. The distance will be measured from the address point of the pupil's permanent home address to the main entrance gate of the school site.

Admissions to the Sixth Form

7. The published admission number (PAN) for Year 12 is 160. The PAN for the number of students admitted from outside the school is 10; this is a *minimum* number. There are a variety of A Level courses on offer, each with different entry criteria. From November of the year prior to entry, applications are made online via a link on the school website. The deadline for applications will be published on our website.

In order to secure admission into Year 12, applicants must:

a) apply by the stated deadline
b) accept the conditional offer
c) meet the stated GCSE requirements
d) enrol on Enrolment Day (GCSE Results Day)

8. The minimum entry requirements for admission to Year 12 apply equally to both internal and external applicants and are based on;

(i) A minimum average point score across all GCSE or equivalent qualifications taken;
(ii) Minimum grades in both best GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics or equivalent;
(iii) Specific minimum GCSE grades or other academic entry criteria for the particular A Level subjects to be taken.

Full details of the Sixth Form admission requirements (both general and subject-specific) are published annually in the Sixth Form Course Information Booklet, which is available on the school's website. Further details are also provided at the Sixth Form Open Evening.

9. Students must come directly into the Sixth Form from Year 11; no student will be admitted to the school to repeat or restart Year 12.

10. In the event of the number of external applicants exceeding the planned admission number into Year 12, the following oversubscription criteria will apply;

(i) Looked after Children, or children who have been previously looked after [see note b) below] who meet the general and specific entrance requirements as described in paragraph 8;
(ii) Applicants who meet the specific requirements for the subjects in which spaces remain, in rank order of GCSE average point score.

11. The governors are able to exercise their discretion to enrol above the planned admission number in order to ensure the minimum target of 160 students in Year 12 is reached.

12. Applicants who meet the general and specific entrance requirements will remain on a waiting list, but no student will be admitted to Year 12 after 15 school days from the beginning of the Autumn term; the beginning of the Autumn term is defined as the first day of school for students.

13. The school will establish arrangements for all appeals against non-admission, which will be independent of the school.

14. The school will publish details of admissions and appeals arrangements every year.

15. Places on individual courses are subject to availability. There is no guarantee that the school will be able to offer students their preferred course choices. The school reserves the right to withdraw a course on offer if, for example, it is not financially viable to run it.

11+ Examination Arrangements

16. Herschel Grammar School is part of the Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools, and operates the 11+ entrance examination to assess the eligibility of students through ability. A standardised score of 111 is the minimum score required to be eligible for consideration for admission, as described above.

17. Full details of the examination arrangements, including key dates and an examination familiarisation booklet, can be found on our website.

18. For September 2028 entry, the 11+ entrance examination will be held at one of the Slough Grammar Schools in Autumn 2027, for children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017. Applicants will be advised at which school/venue their examination will take place in the summer of 2027.

19. If an applicant is unable to sit the test on the designated day, such as due to the child's sickness, parental sickness, or transport failure, the school must be advised before 8:30am on the designated day, by sending an email to the admissions officer/ administrator explaining the reasons for the applicant missing the test. Please note that, in the case of the applicant's sickness, medical evidence will be required. Other circumstances, such as religious observance must be advised to the Consortium by the deadline of registration.

An alternative testing date will be set for applicants unable to take the test on the original designated date.

20. The 11+ Entrance examinations are targeted at the expected age range for Year 6 children. If applicants are out of the normal age range, where pupils are too young or too old for Year 6 because of, for example, being accelerated through primary school due to exceptional ability or being held back a year due to poor health, an explanation of the circumstances must be provided on the application form. The examinations are intended to be administered in Year 6, sat on the main examination date or as close to that date as possible, and within the academic year of the examination. Requests for admission outside the normal age group will be considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the School Admissions Code.
21.

Pupils with a date of birth outside of the expected range for Year 6 children will have their age adjusted through the standardisation process.

NOTES

a) An Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is a plan made by the local authority under Section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014 specifying the special education provision required for that child.

   Section 39(2) of the Children and Families Act 2014 states that the local authority must consult the school before naming a school on the EHCP. Section 39(4) outlines the only reasons why a school should not be named. These are "a) the school or other institution requested is unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or special educational needs of the child or young person concerned, or b) the attendance of the child or young person at the requested school or other institution would be incompatible with – (i) the provision of efficient education for others, or (ii) the efficient use of resources." Pursuant to this act, Herschel Grammar School will work with recognised authorities to ensure that a child with an EHCP is suitable.

b) 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 including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. 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).

c) Parents wishing to have eligibility for Pupil Premium considered as part of the admissions process must be able to demonstrate that they are in receipt of free school meals at the closing date for the Common Application Form, or have been in receipt of income-related free school meals at any time since 1 September 2019

In applying these admission arrangements, your **home address** will be defined as the place of residence of the parent with whom the applicant spends the majority of his/her time.

The home address provided when you registered for the 11+ will be used for admissions purposes, including measuring the distance from your home to the school. Applicants must be living at the address stated on your Common Application Form by 31 October 2027, and must have lived continuously at that same address since 1 May 2027

Where parents share responsibility for part of the week, then both home addresses must be quoted. The school will check the authenticity of the home address stated.

If the home address changes between registering for the 11+ and the closing date for the Common Application Form (31 October 2027), you must inform the school and provide a reason for the change. Special consideration may be given if it can be clearly demonstrated that the move was not made to increase chances of securing a place at the school i.e., a move that results in being closer to the school (increasing proximity). The school reserves the right to seek additional evidence to verify an address at any stage of the admissions process. An offer may be withdrawn where it was obtained through a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application.

Statutory Framework and Legislative References

These admission arrangements have been determined in accordance with the following legislation and statutory guidance:

- **The School Standards and Framework Act 1998** – *Part III* sets out the statutory basis for school admissions and the determination of admission arrangements by admission authorities.
- **The School Admissions Code (2021)** – statutory guidance issued under *section 84 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998*, governing all aspects of school admissions, including oversubscription criteria, waiting lists and in-year admissions.
- **The School Admission Appeals Code (2012, as amended 2022)** – statutory guidance setting out the procedures for the conduct of admission appeals.
- **The Children and Families Act 2014**, sections *37* and *39* – relating to Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans and the naming of schools by local authorities.
- **The Children Act 1989**, sections *20*, *22(1)*, *31* and *38* – defining the term 'looked after children' and the legal responsibilities of local authorities.
- **The School Information (England) Regulations 2008** – setting out the statutory information which schools must publish about their admission arrangements.

Herschel Grammar School, as its own admission authority, determines these arrangements annually in line with the requirements of the *School Standards and Framework Act 1998* and the *School Admissions Code (2021)*.

The school participates in the local authority Fair Access Protocol.

Appendix 1

Herschel Grammar School

As specified in section 5(ii) of our Admissions Arrangements for September 2028 Entry.

Priority will be given to pupils living within the school catchment area, which is defined as a home address within 4 miles of the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance gate of the school, using a Geographical Information System (GIS), with those closest to the school receiving the higher priority.

The map below gives an indication of a 4-mile radius of Herschel Grammar School. However, the map is illustrative only. The measured distance recorded by the school's GIS system will determine eligibility.

