

Admission Criteria 2011

Year 7

Applicants with a signed Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) which names Holland Park will be placed at the school via the SEN process as set out in Section 324 of the Education Act 1996. Applicants are asked to read carefully all the information set out in the following paragraphs though not all of it may seem relevant to their application.

The admissions number for Holland Park is 240. Holland Park seeks to create and preserve a genuinely balanced intake which reflects its commitment to a comprehensive character. The school will therefore admit students to Year 7 in four bands of ability. Each band will comprise 25% of the intake, i.e., 60 places. Applicants will be allocated to bands after they have taken a standardised test. Holland Park School has a particular expertise in the teaching of the visual arts and will offer six places within each band to applicants who can demonstrate an aptitude and capacity to succeed in the visual arts, especially art and design. Applicants for those places **must** complete a supplementary information form. There will be an assessment by the school of their potential. Applicants who are not offered a place on the grounds of aptitude will automatically be considered for a place within their ability band under the general admission criteria described below.

Holland Park School has for a number of years been heavily oversubscribed. If in 2011 there are again more applications to the school than there are places available, the Royal Borough will allocate places in accordance with the following order of priority.

1. Children in Public Care, also known as Looked After Children in care of the local authority. The child's social worker must submit a letter to the Royal Borough confirming the legal status of the child and the local authority to whom the child is in care and quoting the child's full name and current address.

2. The Executive Director of Family and Children's Services may, on an individual basis, give priority to applicants who can demonstrate that admission to Holland Park School is necessary on the grounds of professionally supported medical social needs. Parents/carers must supply details of any such special factors at the time of the original application together with recent supporting documentation. Such applications will not be considered without professional support, such as a letter or report from a doctor, consultant or social worker, which must not be no more than six months old. All information submitted will be regarded as confidential.

Only a small number of the places available in each band will be taken up by the categories of applicant described in category (1) and (2). For the majority of applicants to Holland Park School the criteria set out next are the ones which are most likely to be relevant. When the applicants referred to in the two preceding paragraphs have all been offered places, the remaining places in each of the four bands will be offered in the following order of priority.

3. (i) To brothers and sisters of children who are expected to be on the roll of Holland Park School from September 2011 (including the sixth form). This includes half brothers or half sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or stepsisters or the children of the parent or carers partner provided that they live at the same address as the applicant.

(ii) To applicants who attend a primary school in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on the closing date for applications for places in the admissions year.

If, in any of the bands, there are more applicants than places available in either category 3(i) or 3(ii), places will be offered first to children who live nearest to the school. Nearness to the school will be calculated using a straight line (as the crow flies) measurement from the child's home 'address point' determined by Ordnance Survey Data to the centre of the school grounds as determined by the Royal Borough using its computerised measuring system. The child living closest to the school will receive the highest priority. Accessibility by car or public transport will be disregarded.

If applicants share the same address (for example, live in the same block of flats or shared house) priority will be given to those closest to the ground floor and then by ascending flat number order. Routes are measured to four decimal places. If in the unlikely event that two or more applicants live at exactly the same distance from the school, the offer of a place will be decided by random allocation.

If, in any of the bands, there are not enough children in categories (i) and (ii) to fill all the places in that band, the remaining places in the band will be offered to other applicants who live nearest the school in the manner described regardless of which primary school they attend. If an offer of a place is not accepted by an applicant the place will be offered to another applicant according to the same order of priority.

Year 7 Waiting list

After Year 7 has begun the allocated Bands will no longer apply. Those who have requested to go on the waiting list will be ordered as described above in 1, 2 and 3(i). After that priority will be given to applicants who live nearest the school in the way described.

Years 8 – 11

If there are more applications than there are places available in these years, priority will first be given in the way described above in 1, 2 and 3(i). After that priority will be to applicants who live nearest the school in the way described.