



**Hymers**  
College

## **ADMISSIONS POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Hymers College is a co-educational independent day school, split over two sites, for pupils from ages 3-18. Pre-School – Year 2 is situated at our Hymers Hessle Mount site on Jenny Brough Lane in Hessle. Year 3 – Year 13 is situated at our Hymers College site on Hymers Avenue in Hull. The School, across both sites, has 1,020 pupils.

Deciding on the right school for your child is very important, and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. We very much hope that you and your child will visit Hymers. We hold a number of open events both in the Autumn and Spring Terms, which give a general introduction to the School. Details are published on our website.

We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children at other times. Please contact our Admissions Team on [admissions@hymers.org](mailto:admissions@hymers.org) or call the School on 01482 343555 to arrange a visit.

### **THE ENTRY PROCEDURE**

We ask that anyone seeking entry to Hymers Hessle Mount contacts our Admissions Team to arrange a visit and tour of the site. An application form should then be submitted and, if a place is available, we will write to you with the offer. Pupils at Hymers Hessle Mount automatically transfer, without need for an entrance assessment, to our Hymers College site for Year 3 onwards, providing that they joined Hymers Hessle Mount at an early enough stage for staff to confidently assess their suitability for the Junior School

Our Hymers College site, from Year 3 onwards, is an academically selective school.

Selection from Year 3 onwards is based upon academic merit which is assessed through an entry assessment including an interview at the School and references from the candidate's previous school.

Our selection process is designed to identify pupils who are able to benefit from our challenging and well-rounded education and to make a positive contribution towards the life of the School.

At Hymers Hessle Mount children can join our Pre-School from their third birthday and then progress to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

In the Junior School the usual point of entry is at 7+/Year 3 although some pupils do join us in Years 4, 5 and 6, subject to the availability of places.

In the Senior School the usual points of entry are 11+/Year 7, and 16+/Year 12. The School may also have occasional places available at other ages but please be aware that our year groups do frequently become full. At the point a year group becomes full a waiting list will be created and applicants added to it. They will then be contacted by the Admissions Team when and if a vacancy becomes available.

We encourage applicants for admission to the Junior School or Senior School to submit their Application Form by the beginning of the December preceding the desired year of admission, e.g. December 2023 for

entry in September 2024. Immediate entry is also possible if there is a vacancy in the desired year group. Please contact the Admissions Team as soon as possible if you wish to apply for immediate entry.

Our Application Form is available on the school website or by contacting our Admissions Team on [admissions@hymers.org](mailto:admissions@hymers.org) or 01482 343555.

## **EQUAL TREATMENT**

The School's aim is to encourage applications from candidates with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world.

Hymers College is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's sex, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation or social background. The School's provision for bursaries is described below.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

The School welcomes pupils with disabilities and/or special educational needs, provided we can offer them any support that they require and cater for any additional needs, and that our site can accommodate them.

We strongly advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disability to discuss their children's requirements with the School before they sit the entrance assessment so that we can make adequate provision for them.

Parents should provide with the Application Form a copy of an educational psychologist's report or a medical report if they have one.

The School will discuss thoroughly with parents (and their child's medical advisers, if appropriate) the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if they become a pupil at the School.

## **THE ACADEMIC ENTRANCE ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

There is no academic assessment for entry into Hymers Hessle Mount. However, a place will only be offered after the child has spent some time in school learning and playing alongside other pupils.

For those seeking entry to Hymers College from Year 3 onwards, who are not transitioning from Hymers Hessle Mount, the aim of the assessment process is to identify potential.

Hymers College is looking for intelligent, well-rounded pupils with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. The School has strong traditions in music, drama, art, debating, community activities and sport. There are many co-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual.

No specific preparation for the entrance assessments is needed, all applicants start on an equal footing, with identical opportunities to display their academic aptitudes.

Detailed below is an overview of the assessment process for those seeking entry for the following academic year, e.g. applying in December 2023 for entry in September 2024.

If you are seeking immediate entry into the school the academic assessment process is very similar to that detailed below. However some elements may be altered, for example the removal of group work exercises if your child is the only applicant at that time. Our Admissions Team will be able to give you full details of the assessment if you require immediate entry.

Candidates applying for admission to Years 3, 4, 5 or 6 (the Junior School) will be invited to come for an Assessment Day which will involve short assessments in English and Maths, an informal interview as well as some group problem solving activities. Pupils who join in Year 3 from Hymers Hessle Mount are not required to sit an entrance assessment for entry into Year 3 unless they have not attended the school long enough for staff to accurately assess their suitability for the Junior School.

Candidates applying for Year 7 entry (11+) sit papers in English and Maths, have an informal interview and sit an online assessment set by the CEM Centre. This assessment is designed to assess developed academic ability. Applicants are also assessed on the basis of a group problem-solving activity.

Candidates applying for entry into Years 8-10 sit papers in English and Maths, which are designed for their age group, have an informal interview and sit an online CEM test. This is designed to test developed academic ability.

Very occasionally we are able to consider applications for Year 11 entry. This is on a case-by-case basis and any application should be discussed with a member of the Admissions Team in advance.

Candidates applying for a place in Year 12 are invited in for a computer-based CAT test and an interview with the Headmaster. Our offer of places into Year 12 is conditional upon a candidate achieving a minimum of 6 Grade 6 GCSE grades, including grades 7 in the subjects proposed for study at A-level/BTEC.

For those seeking entry for the following academic year, the main assessment days will be held in the January of that year, e.g. For those seeking entry in September 2024, the main assessment days will be held in January 2024.

For those seeking immediate entry or who miss the January assessment, if places in the required year group are still available, an entrance assessment date will be arranged between the applicant and the Admissions Team at a mutually convenient time.

In all cases references will be sought from the Head of a candidate's current school as part of the assessment process.

### **SIBLING POLICY**

Most siblings join us at Hymers College. However, admission is not automatic and there may be occasions when the School judges that a sibling is likely to thrive better in a different academic environment.

Please note, we are unable to offer a sibling discount on fees.

### **HYMERS FEE REMISSION SCHEME (BURSARY SCHEME) – YEAR 7 ONWARDS**

The Reverend John Hymers, Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge and Rector of Brandesburton, left money in his will for a school to be built; "for the training of intelligence...among the vast and varied population of the town and port of Hull."

In the spirit of its founding message, the School operate a Fee Remission Scheme, in the main for pupils from Year 7 onwards, that enables approximately 110 academically-able children to attend when parents/guardians are not in a financial position to pay the full fees.

A limited number of bursaries are offered through the Hymers Fee Remission Scheme (Bursary Scheme) usually from Year 7 onwards in order to make it possible for as many as possible who meet the admissions criteria to attend the School. Bursaries are mostly awarded either for Year 7 or Year 12 entry.

Under the Scheme, financial help up to the full value of the fees may be available, dependent upon the child's academic ability and external assessment of the income and assets of the family.

The Hymers Fee Remission Scheme is a bursary scheme, not a scholarship scheme. Bursaries are means-tested (based on income and assets, set against life-style) with high academic ability being a pre-requisite of any award.

We use an external company called 'Bursary Administration Limited' (BAL) to help us assess, conduct home visits and assess income and assets. The financial assessment process runs alongside the academic assessment process of an application.

The main joining points for the Scheme are Year 7 in the Senior School and Year 12 at the start of Sixth Form.

Acceptance onto the Scheme continues to the next joining point – the child's academic performance is then used to determine whether fee remission may continue. The amount of the award is reviewed every year to take account of fluctuations in parental income. The family is required to provide fresh information about its circumstances for every year that their child attends Hymers College.

Applicants should tick the box on the Application Form to indicate that they wish to apply for the Scheme as part of their application.

The School's practice is to allocate its entire available bursary funding on entry. The School's expectation is that parents, who do not choose to apply for a bursary at the time that their child is being assessed, will not require financial support throughout the time that their child attends the School, except in wholly unforeseen circumstances.

It is extremely unlikely that a bursary will be available for anyone seeking immediate entry to the school as the funds as available for bursaries will already have been awarded for the current academic year.

Bursaries are only offered to families who are resident in the UK.

Information about the Hymers Fee Remission can be obtained via our Admissions Team or Finance Office.

Please note, a bursary may be withdrawn in accordance with the terms upon which such award is made or in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions.

#### **OVERSEAS APPLICANTS: HOMESTAY ARRANGEMENTS**

A small number of pupils come from overseas to study at Hymers through the agency Oxbridge Guardians. This agency is accredited with AEGIS, the Association for the Education & Guardianship of International Students. Pupils who join Hymers through Oxbridge Guardians live as homestay pupils in the house of a suitable guardian verified by the agency.

Occasionally other students from overseas apply to join Hymers. Details of the student's visa status/requirement is requested during this process. A school place may be offered after successful completion of the entrance assessment and interview process. Following confirmation of acceptance and payment of a deposit fee, Hymers generates a Certificate of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) for the 'Child Student' or 'Student' category which is issued for visa application purposes. For students who do not hold a British passport, information about the student's visa status will be kept on file. If parents do not live permanently in the UK within the vicinity of Hymers, a guardian must be appointed.

However, parents of overseas pupils should appreciate that we do not run a short-term study programme and we expect overseas pupils to finish a complete course of study such as Years 12-13. We are unable to provide accommodation for pupils.

## **FLUENCY IN ENGLISH**

In order to cope with the high academic and social demands of Hymers College, pupils must be fluent English speakers. All candidates who do not have English as their first language and are applying from abroad are required to sit an IELTS Test and score 5.5 in all elements. Normally pupils should have been educated in the English medium for at least two years before coming to the School. While tuition in English as an Additional Language (EAL) is provided by Hymers College, additional tuition can be arranged at the parents' expense.

## **RELIGIOUS BELIEFS**

Hymers College welcomes applications from prospective pupils of all faiths and of no faith.

Although Hymers College has Christian roots, the School does not select for entry on the basis of religious belief, and it offers the opportunity for pupils of other beliefs to practise their own faiths.

## **SCHOOL'S TERMS & CONDITIONS**

The School's Terms and Conditions will be made available to parents as part of the admissions process.

## **RECORDS AND REVIEW**

Applicants' details will be held on file with due regard to data protection legislation and the School's Privacy Notice.

The School will not hold the personal data of you or your child for longer than is necessary for a lawful purpose. This will generally be no more than 6 months following an unsuccessful application, but reasons to retain for longer might include: e.g. if the parents express an interest in the candidate re-applying for any reason at a later date, or in the potential candidacy of another sibling; or to deal with any ongoing matters or queries arising from the application.

Revised by Head – March 2020

Approved by Governing Body – 12 May 2020

Revised by Head – April 2021

Reviewed by Governing Body (Education Committee) – April 2021

Approved by Governing Body – 2 July 2021

Reviewed by Head – Sept 21

Revised – November 2022

Reviewed by Governing Body (Education Committee) – December 2022

Revised – November 2023

Reviewed by Governing Body (Education Committee) – December 2023