

## Gateways School Admissions Policy

### **Rationale:**

Gateways is a small community where every member is considered and respected. All applications for admission to the school are treated equally, keeping the needs of the prospective pupil uppermost. The usual points of entry into the school are at Nursery (age 2+); Reception (age 4+); Juniors (age 7+); High School (11+) and Sixth Form (16+) although applications will be accepted for any age group where spaces are available.

### **Purposes:**

1. To state clearly the way in which the school makes decisions about admission.
2. To affirm that Gateways is not an academically selective school but that through its admissions procedures, the school seeks to ensure that every child admitted can benefit from the learning environment offered.
3. To encourage applications from children with as diverse a range of backgrounds and beliefs as possible. Within available funding, to offer means tested bursaries to make it possible for as many children as possible who meet the school's admission criteria, to attend the school.
4. To make clear that admission to the High School from the Preparatory School is not automatic and that Preparatory School pupils will sit the High School entrance examination alongside external candidates.

### **Guidelines:**

1. All pupils are required to complete an assessment process appropriate to their age. For points of entry other than to the High School, this is usually organised on an individual basis at a mutually convenient time.
2. The entrance examination for the High School is usually held on the last Friday of the January preceding the September of entry. The date is published on the school website.
3. The assessment process at all ages is a combination of measuring academic attainment and potential as well as gauging the extent to which the prospective pupil will benefit from joining the school, both socially and in terms of the wide range of additional opportunities and support that the school has to offer.
4. Details of the Gateways' bursary process and scholarship awards are available on request from the school Business Manager.
5. Gateways' contractual terms and conditions are made available to parents as part of the admissions process and prior to their acceptance of a place.
6. The Headmistress's decision relating to all matters of admissions is final.

### **Conclusion:**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Admissions Procedure, which clearly states the various steps of the admissions process.