

Upton Hall School FCJ Admission Policy for September 2021

Upton Hall School FCJ is a Roman Catholic Grammar School for girls aged 11-18. It is situated in the Diocese of Shrewsbury and is under the Trusteeship of the Society of the Faithful Companions of Jesus. The Academy Trust is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for decisions on admissions to the School. The co-ordination of admission arrangements is undertaken by the Local Authority. For the school year commencing September 2021, the published admission number based on net capacity is 156.

Admission to the School in Year 7

An Admissions Committee of the Academy Trust will determine admission to the school for those girls **who have achieved 236 in the Entrance Examination** consisting of two closed NFER tests in Verbal Reasoning.

If there are more than 156 girls who satisfy the requirements stated, places will be offered strictly in accordance with the order of merit based on the results achieved in the Entrance Examination and according to the following priorities:

- (1) Baptised Roman Catholic girls (including any girl who was baptised a Christian and can demonstrate that she has subsequently been admitted to the Roman Catholic Church).
- (2) Girls, who have not been baptised into the Roman Catholic Church, whose parents wish them to have a Roman Catholic education.

In the event of oversubscription in any of the above categories, places will be allocated in order of merit based on the score in the Examination. If there are several candidates at the 156th place with equal marks in the order of merit, priority will be given to those girls whose homes are nearest the School.

Notes:

- a. All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 31 October 2020.
- b. *A Baptised Roman Catholic girl* means a girl who has been baptised into the Roman Catholic Church prior to application to sit the Entrance Examination and who can produce a baptismal certificate.
- c. *Nearest to the School* means the shortest available safe walking distance as measured by the Local Authority computer mapping system.
- d. An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the admissions round and the child will be admitted by the school governors where there are available places. Enquiries may be made at the school office but application must be made by via the transfer form available on the Wirral Council website at www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions or by calling 0151 606 2020 during office hours. Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied. If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see below). You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

e. **Waiting Lists**

A waiting list for girls who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admissions Criteria. Parents will be informed of their daughter's position on the waiting list which will be retained until the end of the Autumn Term in the academic year for which admission is requested.

f. **Appeals**

If an application for admission has been refused by the Admissions Authority, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school within 20 school days of the refusal. The parents must give their reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Admissions Authority.

g. The Admissions Authority reserve the right to withdraw the offer of a school place where false evidence is received in relation to baptism or place of residence.

Admission to the School in Year 12 (Sixth Form)

In addition to places available for students already in the School, the Admissions Authority will make available a further 30 places for students from other schools. The required minimum standard for all students wishing to obtain a place in the Sixth Form is five GCSE passes at grade 5 or above including English and Mathematics, with at least grade 6 in subjects to be studied at Advanced Level, with the exception of those students wishing to study Advanced Level Mathematics who will be required to have a grade 7 at GCSE. Should the School receive more external applications for the Sixth Form than can be accommodated, then the criteria applied for entry in Year 7 will be used to determine admissions but without reference to the Governors Entrance Examination or gender.

Notes:

- a. If an application for admissions from either internal or external candidates has been turned down by the Admissions Authority then an appeal can be made to an Independent Appeals Panel. Parents and students are able to appeal jointly or separately against any decision refusing a young person admission and, where they appeal separately the appeals must be heard together. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school within 20 days of refusal. Reasons for the appeal must be given in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Admissions Authority.
- b. The Admissions Authority expects that all students specifically selecting a Roman Catholic Sixth Form education will wish to be both fully involved in the ethos and spiritual life of the school, and in achieving the aims set out in its Mission Statement.