

## ADMISSIONS POLICY

It is Concord's policy to recruit students to classes who are appropriately qualified for the very high level of study expected of students at Concord. This includes assessing academic achievements so far, as well as their potential for future study. Other talents and personal qualities will also be taken into consideration.

Entry takes place into:

Year 9	(Form 3)
Year 10	(Form 4)
Year 12	(Sixth Form)

Under exceptional circumstances it is possible to admit students directly into Year 11 but the Principal would have to be convinced of their ability and temperament. The GCSE course is delivered over two years (10 and 11) and any student enrolled directly into Year 11 should have undergone Year 10 studies at another school as an appropriate foundation for Year 11 entry. It is even rarer for Concord to admit students directly into Year 13. Any such student will have completed the equivalent of Year 12 in another institution or may perhaps be recovering from an interrupted education.

As most Concord students come from outside the UK, an important issue is their level of fluency in English. This is assessed wherever possible through testing either on-line or face-to-face, but in countries where English is the language of instruction school reports and exam grades are also taken into account. Concord is unable to teach students whose level of fluency is at beginner/elementary stage. Students require an intermediate level of fluency in English upon arrival and Concord provides tuition to take the students through to a fluency level appropriate for university degree studies.

For entry to Years 9 and 10 Concord requires students to have a reasonable chance of achieving a significant number of grades 7-9 at GCSE Level. Therefore, the following are required:

1. A strong performance in UKISET (normally an average of over 130)
2. A good performance in Concord's English language diagnostic test (if sat)
3. Excellent performances in Concord Maths and reasoning tests (if sat)
4. Evidence of a high level of achievement and potential in previous school reports
5. Evidence of a high level of achievement and potential in previous public examinations (eg. Standard Assessment Tests (SATS), PMR)
6. A satisfactory interview, either face-to-face or via Skype (if this is practical)

For entry to Year 12 we expect students to have the potential/ability to achieve A or B grades in their A Level subjects. Therefore, the following are required:

1. A strong performance in UKISET (normally an average of over 130)
2. Strong passes at GCSE or in an equivalent overseas examination, normally at least an A grade in the subjects chosen at A level and preferably an A\* or 8/9 in at least two of these subjects. Students progressing from the Lower School, or from other schools in the UK, are normally asked to gain a total of 49 points in their best six subjects at GCSE, with at least a grade 8 in the subjects they wish to study at A level.
3. A good performance in Concord English and Maths online tests
4. Excellent performances in Concord Maths, English and reasoning tests (if sat)
5. Evidence of a high level of achievement and potential in previous school reports

6. Evidence of a high level of achievement and potential in previous public examinations (eg. Standard Assessment Tests (SATs), PMR)
7. A satisfactory interview, either face-to-face or via Skype (if this is practical)

For more on Assessment during the recruitment process, see 2.3 Assessment Policy.

Recruitment from mainland China presents special problems as far as ascertaining academic merit is concerned (See 2.20 Policy on Recruitment in China).

As an international school Concord is proud of the diversity of the student body. Some account will be taken of the nationality mix within the college when admissions are made, though the primary criteria is academic.

If possible, children of ex-Concord students and siblings will be given priority in admission to the college (as long as the normal academic criteria are fulfilled).

Trust is a crucial element in the admissions process. Concord is a highly academic college that is not suitable for all students. Students are tested on arrival in English and Maths, and if performance is found to be significantly worse than presented during the admissions process or through the online tests, then the student may be asked to leave.

## **EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND DISABILITY**

All candidates for admission will be treated equally, irrespective of their, or their parents' race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, orientation, property, birth or other status.

The college will do all that is reasonable to comply with its legal and moral responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001, in order to accommodate the needs of applicants who have disabilities for which, with reasonable adjustments, the college can cater adequately. The college needs to be aware of any known disability or special educational need which may affect a child's ability to participate in the admissions procedure and take full advantage of the education provided at the college.

Parents of a child who has any disability or special educational needs should provide the college with full details prior to the admissions procedure, at registration, or subsequently before accepting the offer of a place so that the college can assess those needs and consult with parents about the adjustments which can reasonably be made to ensure that the application procedure is accessible for the child and that the college can cater adequately for the pupil should an offer of a place be made.

If special education needs or a disability become apparent after admission, the college will consult with parents about reasonable adjustments in order to allow the child to continue at the college.

### **Please note**

It is normal that students will be selected for admission on their merits alone. The only exception to this would be if Concord was alerted to a parent who may have been abusive towards staff in a previous school or who may have made any vexatious or fictitious claim against such a school. Under such circumstances, Concord reserves the right to refuse admission on the grounds of the potential risk to the Concord community, the well-being of staff and the reputation of the college.

Reviewed NGH / Oct 18

Reviewed by the Welfare Committee of the Board of Trustees Nov 2017

The policy is next due for review on 01/02/2020