

## **ADMISSIONS POLICY**

- 1. Entry to Harrow School Online is selective. The School offers education for Key Stage 5 of the UK national curriculum, preparing pupils aged 16-18 for their Pearson Edexcel International A Level qualifications. It selects pupils who will be able successfully to negotiate online education and achieve success at A level.
- 2. Admission is to the School and not to any particular House. The Head of Admissions and academic subject specialists play a major part in the process and advise the Principal on the suitability of pupils, having regard to the Admissions Policy. However, admission decisions are made by the Principal, whose decision is final.
- 3. Harrow School Online admits boys and girls from countries worldwide. Occasionally there may be territories from which pupils cannot attend the School due to local legislation or other restrictions. It is the responsibility of the pupils' parents or legal guardians to ensure that they abide by any relevant local or national legislation.
- 4. Harrow School Online admits pupils into year 12 to start their academic year in September. Very occasionally late applicants may be considered to join part-way through the A level programmes. This will depend on those applicants having previously studied the majority of the material that has been missed, and the subject teacher/s concerned being satisfied that the pupil will be able to catch up on any material which they have not previously studied.
- 5. For admission to our full-time programme and for pupils who are enrolled on individual A level programmes and choose to take the enrichment programme, our maximum age is 17 years on September 1 of their year of admission.
- 6. Pupils aged 18 and 19 years old on September 1 of their year of admission may be admitted to study on the individual A Level seniors programme, which is taught in separate classes without interaction with the broader school community or access to the enrichment programme. Pupils who are 17 years on September 1 of their year of admission and who are enrolled on individual A level programmes can chose to join either our seniors programme or main school programme.
- 7. Harrow School Online retains full discretion as to how and to whom offers are made. However, six main factors are normally taken into account in deciding how offers should be made. These factors are non-exhaustive and the weight given to them will vary from case to case:
  - 7.1. Academic potential: we expect pupils to demonstrate a strong academic track-record and the potential for success at A level. This can be measured in a number of ways, for example by the pupil's reference from their current school, predicted and/or actual GCSE or International GCSE grades, and Harrow School Online subject specific entrance tests and interviews. We elect pupils who can show a good academic proficiency, normally the equivalent of predicted GCSE grades of 7-8-9 or A-A\* in 7-8 subjects.
  - 7.2. English language proficiency: we require pupils to demonstrate a level of English that will allow them to be successful at A level and to follow instruction from an English-speaking teacher online. Pupils who are native speakers of English or pupils who have been educated in a primarily English-speaking country for an extended period may be exempt from providing evidence of English language ability, at the discretion of the Head of Admissions.

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English language ability is verified through submitting evidence of attainment on one of our approved English language tests, the IELTS, Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE-A) or TOEFL iBT exam when completing the application form, or alternatively by sitting the PTE Versant English test during an admissions window. If a pupil does not meet the minimum level set out in the table below, Harrow School Online may accept a lower level of English provided he or she commits to taking English support lessons at additional cost.

Exam	Minimum level required	Minimum level with EAL support for studying Maths, Chemistry, Physics & Spanish	Minimum level with EAL support for studying EPQ, Biology & Economics
PTE-A	58	42	50
IELTS	6.5	5.5	6
TOEFL iBT	86	55	74

- 7.3. Behaviour: Harrow School Online only accepts pupils with a positive behavioural record.
- 7.4. Willingness and ability to embrace and abide by the School's values of courage, honour, humility and fellowship.
- 7.5. Suitability for online study: Online education requires a degree of self-motivation and self-management, and these are critical skills for success at Harrow School Online.
- 7.6. The potential to develop well towards a life of learning, leadership, service and personal fulfilment, in line with the School's Purpose.

Pupil behaviour and character is evaluated in a number of ways, including examination of pupil reports, their academic reference and our online interviews.

- 8. Harrow School Online aims to admit pupils with a wide range of personalities, talents and backgrounds. To achieve that aim, other factors may also be taken into account when deciding whether to offer a place. Such factors include family connections and background and the presence of other family members in the School.
- 9. Harrow School Online warmly welcomes pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). A pupil with SEND, who otherwise fills the admissions criteria, may be admitted if Harrow School Online has sufficient provision for dealing well with the needs in question. The School can cater well for pupils with mild autism, for example. Applicants with SEND are invited to discuss with Harrow School Online's SENDCo any reasonable adjustments which may be necessary to enable him or her to enrol, including adjustments to our admissions assessment tests and interviews.
- 10. Harrow School Online offers scholarships and bursaries annually for up to 1 in 5 of its pupils. Bursaries cover up to 100% of fees, while scholarship awards cover up to 25% of the tuition fee.
- 11. Complaints about admissions decisions should be made to the Head of Admissions in the first instance. Please request confirmation of email to <a href="mailto:admissions@harrowschoolonline.org">admissions@harrowschoolonline.org</a>.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

This procedure is designed to set good practice standards. However, the School recognises that best practice develops over time and, as such, will update it regularly in the light of experience and as a result of changes in legislation or its own internal organisation and policies. The procedure will be subject to a comprehensive review on an annual basis.

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