



SAPIENCE
GIRLS ACADEMY

ADMISSIONS POLICY

2023-24

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Approved by- SGA Governing Body

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ADMISSIONS POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

When parents express an interest in applying for their child's place at Sapience girls Academy (SGA), Parents and pupil are requested to collect an application form from the school office. Parents are requested to complete and return the form to the same office with the following documentation-

1. The child's Birth Certificate or Passport
2. School report (primary or secondary school)
3. Admission fee of £30 to cover the costs of the initial admission online test.

The school office will consider the application form and contact parents/guardian to invite the pupil for the preliminary online test and interview. The school staff will carefully consider the test results and the interview outcome, and inform parents/guardians of the school decision. If the application is accepted, the parents/guardian will be requested to pay a non-refundable deposit of £350. If the application is rejected and the parents wish to complain about the admission process or procedure, parents may collect the complaints form from the school office or see appendix (a) for the form, and return it to the school office.

IMPORTANT: Please note that there are two entry points for new students wishing to join Sapience Girls Academy. The first entry point is September and the second is January. Please ensure you apply in advance of these entry points as any late entries may not be accepted.

2. STATEMENT OF ETHOS

Sapience Girls Academy is an independent, faith school for girls aged 11-16. At Sapience Girls Academy, we are dedicated to fostering an educational environment deeply rooted in Islamic principles, where knowledge, faith, and character flourish harmoniously. Guided by the teachings of the Quran and the traditions of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), our ethos is a testament to our commitment to shaping well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to society.

1. Faith-Centric Learning: We prioritize the integration of Islamic teachings into every aspect of our curriculum, nurturing an environment where students develop a profound understanding of their faith. Our goal is to instil a strong connection with Allah, fostering a love for learning that extends beyond the classroom.

2. Academic Excellence and Inquiry: We are dedicated to providing a rigorous academic program that encourages critical thinking, creativity, and a thirst for knowledge. Our educators strive to cultivate a passion for learning, equipping students with the skills necessary for academic success and lifelong intellectual pursuits.

3. Moral and Ethical Development: Upholding the highest standards of moral and ethical conduct, we aim to nurture individuals who embody Islamic values in their character and actions. Our students learn the importance of integrity, compassion, and social responsibility, becoming positive contributors to their communities.

4. Inclusive Community: Embracing diversity and unity, our school fosters an inclusive environment where students from all backgrounds feel welcomed and valued. We celebrate the richness of our cultural and religious diversity, promoting mutual understanding and respect among our students and staff.

5. Service to Humanity: Inspired by the Islamic principles of charity and community service, we instil a sense of responsibility to serve humanity. Our students are encouraged to actively engage in charitable endeavours and community service, embodying the spirit of compassion and empathy.

6. Family and Community Engagement: We recognize the importance of strong partnerships between the school, parents, and the wider community. Through open communication and collaboration, we strive to create a supportive network that reinforces the values and principles upheld within the school.

7. Lifelong Learning and Personal Growth: Our commitment extends beyond the academic journey, emphasizing the importance of continuous personal and spiritual growth. We prepare our students to face the challenges of an ever-changing world with resilience, adaptability, and a steadfast commitment to their Islamic identity.

At SGA, our ethos is a reflection of our dedication to nurturing individuals who excel academically, embody Islamic values, and positively impact the world around them. Rooted in the teachings of Islam, we inspire a love for knowledge, a strong sense of identity, and a deep connection with spirituality.

We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

3. MAKING AN APPLICATION

- Sapience Girls Academy is an independent school and the governing body has responsibility for admissions to the school. Parents may apply throughout the school year; however, we strongly recommend parents adhere to the admission cycles in September and January.
- We have places for up to 20 pupils in Year 7 in any given academic year. Pupils with older siblings at the school will have priority.
- Offers will be made at the same time as other secondary school in the area. If places are rejected, they will be notified as soon as possible.
- Unsuccessful applicants will, if they wish, be placed on a waiting list. The request to be added to the waiting list must be made in writing to the school office. The list will be maintained until 31st December following the admission of year 7.
- Unsuccessful applicants wishing to appeal against the decision, may appeal to the school office. Parents / carers are asked to appeal to the school office within 3 weeks or 10 school days, whichever is longer, of the refusal of the place.
- “Looked after children” has the same meaning as in S22 of the Children’s Act 1989.
- “Sibling” includes brothers, adopted brothers, half-brothers, fostered brothers and step brothers. In all cases the siblings must be living at the same address as the sibling who attends the school and as the relevant parent/carer. Siblings do not include cousins or any other relatives.
- “Proximity” and “distance”. Whenever distance from the school is a relevant factor, it will be determined by the nearest straight line from the front door of the applicant’s home to the entrance to the school on Waterloo St, Oldham. This distance will be measured by the electronic distance programme. Applicants living closer to the school will be preferred over those living further away.

In the event of the number of applications exceeding the number of places, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below.

- a. Looked after Muslim children who meet the religious practice test.
 - b. Any other looked after children.
 - c. Muslim children who meet the religious practice test and who have a sibling who is due to be attending the school at the proposed date of admission of the applicant.
 - d. Muslim children who meet the religious practice test.
 - e. Children of other faiths whose application is supported by a minister of religion who confirms that the child regularly practises that faith.
 - f. Any other children.
11. In the event of a tie after all other criteria have been applied then the final place will be allocated randomly by way of a lottery observed by an independent person.

APPENDIX (A)
ADMISSIONS APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS FORM

Students full name: _____ Student Date of Birth: _____

Applying to year group (please circle): 7 8 9 10 11

Home Address:

1. Parent/Guardian contact name: _____

Home telephone: _____ mobile: _____

Email: _____

2. Parent/Guardian contact name: _____

Home telephone: _____ mobile: _____

Email: _____

Please give as much information about your case, please continue on another page if necessary. Once completed, please return it to the school office.
