



Admissions Policy

The Marsh Academy is a comprehensive school which caters for boys and girls of all abilities. The Academy provides 180 places for students in each year group from Years 7 to 11. It has a total of 200 places in its sixth form (Years 12-13).

This policy covers:

1. Admissions at the normal point of entry (i.e. into Year 7 for the start of the school year).
2. Arrangements for September 2009.
3. Casual admissions into Years 7-11.
4. Admissions to the Sixth Form.

1. Admissions at the normal point of entry

The Academy is included within the co-ordinated admissions arrangements operated by Kent County Council. This means that the transfer of pupils from primary schools into the Academy is managed by the County Council along with admissions into all other secondary schools.

2. Arrangements for September 2009

To apply for a place in Year 7 for September 2009, you should complete the common Application Form (produced by Kent County Council) by October 2008.

In the event that the Academy receives more than 180 applications (the number of places available) after the admission of pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs where the Marsh Academy is named on the statement, places will be offered using the criteria below which are in priority order:

1. Children in the care of a local authority (see Note 1 below).
2. Children with health and special access reasons to attend the Academy (see Note 2 below).
3. Pupils living within the Marsh Academy first priority zone, including the parishes of Burmarsh, Dymchurch, St Mary-in-the-Marsh, New Romney, Old Romney, Lydd, Ivychurch, Brookland, Brenzett, Snargate and Newchurch. If there are more pupils fulfilling this criterion than places available, priority will be given to (i) siblings of pupils who will be in the Academy at the time of admission (see note 3 below), followed by (ii) pupils living closest to the front gate of the Academy, as measured by a straight line.

4. Pupils living outside the Marsh Academy first priority zone. If there are more pupils fulfilling this criterion than places available, priority will be given to (i) siblings of pupils who will be in the Academy at the time of admission (see note 3 below), followed by (ii) pupils living closest to the front gate of the Academy, as measured by a straight line.

3. Casual admission into Years 7-11

Casual Admissions into Years 7-11 are subject to vacancies in the year group at the time of application. The Academy does not hold a waiting list. You should apply by completing the Academy's application form, which can be obtained from the Academy. We will consider your application within five days and respond in writing.

In the event that the Academy receives more applications than it has vacancies in the year group, the following oversubscription criteria (which are in priority order) will be applied:

1. Children in the care of a local authority (see Note 1 below).
2. Children with health and special access reasons to attend the academy (see Note 2 below).
3. Pupils living within the Marsh Academy first priority zone, including the parishes of Burmarsh, Dymchurch, St Mary-in-the-Marsh, New Romney, Old Romney, Lydd, Ivychurch, Brookland, Brenzett, Snargate and Newchurch. If there are more pupils fulfilling this criterion than places available, priority will be given to (i) siblings of pupils who will be in the Academy at the time of admission (see note 3 below), followed by (ii) pupils living closest to the front gate of the Academy, as measured by a straight line.
4. Pupils living outside the Marsh Academy first priority zone. If there are more pupils fulfilling this criterion than places available, priority will be given to (i) siblings of pupils who will be in the Academy at the time of admission (see note 3 below), followed by (ii) pupils living closest to the front gate of the Academy, as measured by a straight line.

4. Admissions to the Sixth Form

Students of the Academy have the right to transfer into the sixth form.

Applications from external students to join the Academy's sixth form are welcomed. You should complete the Academy's application form which can be obtained from the Academy. Applicants should be made by 01 May 2009.

In the event of oversubscription, places will be allocated in line with the oversubscription criteria used at the normal point of entry (contained in Section (2) above).

Appeal process

In the unfortunate event that the Academy cannot offer you/your child a place you will be advised of this decision and of your right to appeal against it. Appeals are considered by an Independent Appeals Committee. The Committee's decision is binding on the Academy and the student/parents.

Right to withdraw a place

The Academy reserves the right to withdraw a place offered to a pupil, if it is evident the place has been offered on the basis of misleading information provided by the pupil/parent(s).

Definition of terminology:

Note 1 Children in the care of a local authority – a child under the age of 18 years for whom the local authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (section 20 of the Children Act 1989) or who is the subject of a Care Order (under Part IV of that Act).

Note 2 Health and Special Access Reasons – Children who for reasons of health or physical impairment require them to attend the Academy. The child's health reasons must be strong and the evidence must demonstrate a special connection between the child's needs and the Academy. The evidence must be supported in writing by a medical practitioner. The child's physical impairment must be such that it requires him/her to attend the Academy because its buildings do not inhibit the child's mobility. Parental health and physical impairment is not a criterion.

Note 3 Sibling – siblings are natural, step, adopted and foster brothers and sisters, plus those living as brother or sister in the same house. To qualify under this criterion the child seeking admission must have a sibling in the school at the time of entry.

Living within the first priority zone - To be living within this first priority zone the pupil's permanent residence (i.e. the place where the child sleeps throughout the week) must be within this area. Proof of residence may be requested. A map showing the boundary can be viewed at the Academy.

Distance – distance is measured between the child's permanent home address and the Academy via a straight line using ordnance survey access point data.