



# Admissions

Policy Document No. 11

**Eastcourt Independent School**

**August 2017**

**Last reviewed: August 2017**

**Next review: August 2018**

## 1. Admissions

- 1.1 The intended annual number of admissions is 48 – two classes of 24 grouped after screening, separating the more confident (often those with an earlier birthday, though this is not a criterion).
- 1.2 Eastcourt maintains well-subscribed waiting lists for entry to the school. Before entry parents are invited to Open Days and personal appointments to tour the school on a working day. When children start in September they have a full day with the initial emphasis on settling into the routine and making friends. Parents bring children into the classroom in the mornings at this stage.

## 2. STEPPING STONES AT THE OAKS ACTIVITY CENTRE

- 2.1 Children join Stepping Stones in the month following their third birthday. Existing families are considered first in order of application. Remaining places are given to other families in a similar way. There is no screening for Stepping Stones – many children move on to Eastcourt, but children also continue their education in other schools, both state and independent.

## 3. RECEPTION

- 3.1 Applications are ordered as follows:
  1. existing families
  2. Stepping Stones children
  3. other applications
- 3.2 Screening sessions are held during the Christmas holiday. In groups of up to 14, children attend an informal assessment of their listening and communication skills and manual dexterity. The several activities used include stories, nursery rhymes, observations of pictures, knowledge of colours, colouring or similar for hand control, and awareness of numbers.
- 3.3 We consider not only the results of the above, but also concentration, behaviour and willingness to participate.

#### 4. KS1 PLACES

- 4.1 If a child leaves, testing is offered to those joining the waiting list who have not already been considered. Children who remain on the waiting list can be retested after one year. Reading and understanding, sentence writing and basic maths skills are assessed.

#### 5. 7+ TESTS

- 5.1 The 7+ test comprises papers covering all areas of maths, together with English reading, writing and comprehension. Sometimes a reasoning test is included, and candidates have the opportunity to speak individually to Mrs Redgrave about their current school and their interests. Playground behaviour is monitored.
- 5.2 Should places become available later in the juniors then testing is given similar to 7+ but at the appropriate level.
- 5.3 All testing is carried out by Mrs Redgrave and Miss Redgrave.

#### 6. RESULTS

- 6.1 Results are sent by letter. The parents of unsuccessful applicants are given the choice of remaining on the waiting list and will often discuss the results with Mrs Redgrave personally, in order to prepare their child as thoroughly as possible for a re-sit.