



Queen Victoria School Admissions Policy

The School's Royal Warrant states that:

“Admission to the School shall be open to the children of Service personnel in any regular branch of the Armed Services who are serving or have served in Scottish Regiments or at Service bases in Scotland on regular engagements, of Scotsmen and Scotswomen who are serving or have served in any regular branch of the Armed forces

and of Scotsmen and Scotswomen who while serving in any other of the Armed Services have been employed on active service save that:

a Service under the National Service Acts 1948 – 1950 shall not confer eligibility except in cases of death while in service or disability due to wounds received in action.

b Such other categories ... may be admitted to the ... where it is deemed by the Board to be in the interests of the School, on payment of charges agreed by the Ministry of Defence. The Board will have complete direction on the numbers so admitted and on their conditions of entry.

“In selection of pupils for admission, preference in general shall be given:

1st To orphans

2nd To those whose fathers or mothers have been killed in action or died in service.

3rd To those who have lost either a father or mother but whose other parent is still serving.

4th To other eligible compassionate cases.

5th To those whose fathers or mothers are still serving and are liable for foreign service.

6th To other eligible children.

7th To any other children that may become eligible.

“In order to ensure that there are enough able children at the School to form adequate classes for senior education, not more than 20 per cent of the intake in any one year may be selected on the results of an educational test rather than solely on parents' service. Provided that they are otherwise eligible and acceptable.”

(continues)

Current practice

If an eligible child is likely to benefit from a place at QVS and can be adequately supported by the School, places are offered according to the following criteria:

- number of years that the Serving parent has left to serve
- likelihood of frequent family relocations for Service reasons and previous experience of these
- likelihood of Serving parent being posted accompanied overseas
- whether or not the child could be offered a stable education elsewhere
- number of places available at QVS in each year-group and House
- whether or not the child already has a sibling in the school

Procedure

Applications, which must be received no later than 15th January of the intended year of entry, are checked for eligibility by the School. Eligible applicants are invited to the Admissions Board in February/March.

Although the children of retired Service personnel are eligible to apply, it should be noted that places are **very** unlikely to be available to them.

The Admissions Board is chaired by a Commissioner and includes the Head and a Deputy Head. They interview and consider all eligible applicants and make judgments on the suitability and selection of pupils.

If the School cannot provide adequate support for an eligible child, either pastorally or academically, a place will not be offered. QVS is a very small school with a small Support for Learning Department, a fully boarding population and some preserved older buildings used for residential purposes. Decisions on whether or not the School can adequately support an applicant are based on the interview, the written tests and the child's demeanour and behaviour on Admissions Day, as well as a report from the applicant's current school.

Points to note

Queen Victoria School is open to the children of serving parents of any rank.

The main point of entry is Primary 7 in the Scottish system; this is where most places are available. Some places are offered each year in S1. Vacancies arise from time to time in other year-groups but they are few in number.

B. McGettrick, Chairman, HMC;
W.A. Bellars, Head.
10th October 08.