



GUILDFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Admissions Guide 2025-26

Admissions Procedure and Entrance Requirements

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Our admissions process aims to select those pupils who we believe will thrive academically, socially and in their personal development in the vibrant and exciting environment which Guildford High School (GHS) has to offer.

The main intake ages are 4, 7 and 11 and pupils may also join at Sixth Form. Limited places are usually available in other year groups.

All admissions to GHS are completed in accordance with our Admissions Policy.

REGISTRATION

The first step for any pupil wishing to join GHS is Registration; this involves completion of the registration form and payment of the non-refundable registration fee (currently £150).

Parents may register their daughter(s) at any time (there is no advantage to early registration) but, in order to complete the entrance process relevant for their point of entry, pupils must be registered by the following deadlines:

The registration deadline for pupils entering Reception in September 2026 is 1 October 2025.

The registration deadline for pupils entering Sixth Form in September 2026 is 1 October 2025.

The registration deadline for pupils entering Yr 1 – Yr 10 in September 2026 is 1 November 2025.

OFFERS AND ACCEPTANCE

Offers of places are typically made within a few weeks of the entrance assessment and parents confirm acceptance of a place by returning a signed Acceptance Form and paying a non-refundable £2,000 Acceptance Deposit (£1,000 of which will be credited against the first term's fee account).

ENTRY AT 4+

For entry at 4+ in September 2026, girls will be invited to take part in our readiness assessments on Thursday 9 October and Sunday 12 October 2025. These sessions will take place at GHS.

On 9 October a group craft activity session will allow the girls to mix with their peers and our teachers. On 12 October girls will take part in games and activities with a teacher. We will assess the learning potential in language development, number and general cognitive skills, manipulative and social skills but reading ability is not assessed. Each of the two sessions will last for approximately 45 minutes and exact timings will be confirmed

in October. The sessions are designed to be fun and interactive and reflective of the girls' ages. All applicants are required to attend both sessions.

ENTRY AT 5+ AND 6+

The entrance assessments for ages 5+ and 6+ will be held on Friday 9 January 2026 for September 2026 entry. For entry for this age group, the assessments consist of number work, story writing and reading comprehension. A report will be requested from each applicant's current school prior to assessment.

ENTRY AT 7+ AND ABOVE

The entrance assessments for ages 7+ and older will be held on Friday 9 January 2026 for September 2026 entry. For entry to the Junior School, the assessments will cover English comprehension, creative writing, spelling and grammar and Mathematics. A report will be requested from each applicant's current school prior to assessment.

Entrance assessments for Years 1-2 and 4-6 will only take place if places are available in the Junior School. Please do not register for assessment for these year groups until you have spoken to the Admissions team, and they have confirmed that assessments will be held. Some places will usually be available in these year groups.

ENTRY AT 11+

The entrance assessments for entry at 11+ will be held on Sunday 16 November 2025 and Friday 9 January 2026. Assessments will take place at GHS. To be considered for a place, an applicant must attend both entrance days.

On 16 November applicants will take part in a one-hour computer-based test (CEM test) comprising verbal, numerical and non-verbal exercises.

All applicants will also be invited to attend our Interview Day on 9 January 2026.

Our Interview Day will provide an opportunity for applicants to experience life at GHS as well as a variety of activity sessions and interview. Whilst informal in nature, the interview will explore creative thinking and analytical skills as well as providing applicants with the opportunity to tell us all about themselves. Girls will not be sitting written test papers during our Interview Day.

A report will also be requested from each applicant's current school prior to the entrance assessment. All applicants who attend on both 16 November and 9 January will be automatically entered for academic scholarship and there is no separate scholarship examination.

ENTRY AT 12+ AND ABOVE

The entrance examination for ages 12+ and older will be held on Friday 9 January 2026 for September 2026 entry.

Applicants sitting for entry to Years 8 and 9 will be assessed in English and Maths and be interviewed by a senior teacher.

The mathematics examination for entry to Years 8 and above (excluding Sixth Form) is set by the Mathematics Department. The test has a short answer format, and the applicants are required to show all of their working. In recognition of the variety of methods which might be used, any logical and accurate working would be acceptable. There may be questions which require facts, properties, and geometrical names. The paper may also include more rigorous problem-solving questions.

The English examination for entry to Years 8 and above (excluding Sixth Form) is set by the English Department and will be a comprehension exercise.

Applicants sitting for entry to Year 10 will also be required to sit a one-hour Science paper covering Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

It is school policy not to issue past papers. Entrance assessments for Years 8-10 will only take place if places are available in the relevant year group. Please do not register for assessment until you have spoken to the Admissions team, and they have confirmed that assessments will be held. Some places will usually be available in these year groups.

ENTRY AT 16+

Applicants for entry to the Lower Sixth in September 2026 will attend the Sixth Form Assessment Day on Wednesday 5 November 2025. The day will combine examinations and an interview carried out by the school Head, Head of Sixth Form, or other Heads of Department. Applicants sit three, one-hour subject related papers (subjects of their choice from a set of options) and a separate general paper. A report will be requested from each applicant's current school prior to assessment. All applicants will be automatically entered for scholarship and there is no separate scholarship examination.

Offers of places are conditional on the following grades at GCSE:

- Minimum of seven grades 9-7 (or equivalent) including English language and Mathematics
- Grades 9 or 8 in subjects being studied in the Sixth Form

STRUCTURE OF GUILDFORD HIGH SCHOOL

GHS is an academically selective independent day school for girls from the ages of 4 to 18.

Junior School	
Reception*	4 to 5 year olds
Year 1	5 to 6 year olds
Year 2	6 to 7 year olds
Year 3*	7 to 8 year olds
Year 4	8 to 9 year olds
Year 5	9 to 10 year olds
Year 6	10 to 11 year olds
Senior School	
Year 7*	11 to 12 year olds
Year 8	12 to 13 year olds
Year 9	13 to 14 year olds
Year 10	14 to 15 year olds

Year 11	15 to 16 year olds
Year 12 (Lower Sixth)*	16 to 17 year olds
Year 13 (Upper Sixth)	17 to 18 year olds

*Main intake ages

Information about additional needs during entrance assessment

Parents of an applicant with a special educational need and/or disability (SEND), or medical condition, must provide GHS with full written details as part of the registration process, and before any entrance assessment takes place. GHS will respond by email to confirm which, if any, special arrangements will be made for the applicant. Late requests will not be accepted, except in the case of recent injury.

Full written details of any SEND are required to permit GHS to make any necessary adjustments required by the applicant so that they can take part in the entrance assessment. In addition, GHS can evaluate the adjustments required by the applicant and GHS's ability to provide those adjustments to the applicant as a pupil of GHS. Withholding of information regarding any SEND could result in an applicant's offer of a place being withdrawn.

Based on the information given and advice received, GHS is committed to making reasonable adjustments that will enable a prospective pupil who satisfies the academic admissions requirements to take up a place. In this regard, GHS is committed to complying with its legal obligations under the *Children and Families Act 2014* and the *SEN and Disability Code of Practice, 0-25 years 2014 (SEND Code 2014)* and the *UK Equality Act 2010*. If, complying with its legal obligations, GHS is unable to offer an adequate level of support for the pupil should they be offered a place, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

Scholarships, Bursaries and Fees

Academic and Music Scholarships are available at 11+ and 16+.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

At 11+ the Academic Scholarships are usually worth between 5% and 10% of the fees and are awarded on the basis of performance at the entrance assessment and interviews. All applicants attending the two entrance assessment days are automatically considered and there is no separate scholarship examination.

At 16+ the Academic Scholarships are usually worth between 5% and 10% of the fees. All applicants sitting for entrance will be automatically considered and there is no separate scholarship examination. All applicants are required to sit a general paper (logic and essay) plus three other papers.

All scholarships are available to internal and external applicants. Exhibitions (lesser awards) and Honorary awards may also be available according to the calibre of the applicants.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Music Scholarships are open to girls who satisfy the normal academic entrance requirements. All Music Scholars are expected to be fully committed to school musical activities. Links to music scholarship application forms will be sent to all registered applicants from mid-October 2025.

11+ Music Scholarships are usually worth between 5% and 10% of the fees. Applicants will need to submit an additional application, to include a short videoclip (no longer than one minute in length) of the applicant performing a piece of their choice. Shortlisted applicants will then be invited to audition shortly after the Interview Day has taken place. The award is made in the light of musical potential as well as actual achievement. Applicants should normally have reached Grade 4-5 on their orchestral instrument and their playing should be of Distinction quality. On certain instruments or in special circumstances it may not have been possible to reach this standard. An award may be made in respect of an applicant's piano playing if this is of an exceptionally good standard. If in doubt, please consult the Director of Music. Applicants are required to perform one piece on an orchestral instrument and, normally, one on the piano. Pieces should be approximately three minutes in length. There are also sight-reading and aural tests and an interview. Original compositions are of interest, but not essential.

Sixth Form Music Scholarships are usually worth between 5% and 10% of the fees. Applicants will need to submit an additional application, to include a short videoclip (no longer than one minute in length) of the applicant performing a piece of their choice. Shortlisted applicants will then be invited to audition in November of the year prior to entry. Applicants will be expected to perform a piece of about four to five minutes in length on both their principal and second instruments. Applicants should be at Grade 8 standard on their principal instrument, although the examination may not have been taken, and their playing should be of Distinction quality. If the piano is the principal instrument, applicants should have reached a good standard on an orchestral instrument or be a good choral singer of Chamber Choir standard with the ability to sight-sing and sustain an independent part. There are also sight-reading and aural tests and an interview. The Director of Music and the Adjudicator would welcome the opportunity to look at, and perhaps hear, a composition if the applicant has been involved in composing.

BURSARIES

Bursaries are available for the daughters of the clergy. Please see our Assisted Places Policy for further information.

ASSISTED PLACES

A number of Assisted Places are available to all internal and external applicants at 11+ entry. Application forms will be provided by the Director of Admissions prior to sitting the entrance assessment. These are awarded on the basis of financial need. The Assisted Places Policy sets out the criteria for award.

Please contact the Admissions Office for further details regarding Scholarships, Bursaries and Assisted Places.

2025/26 FEES

Tuition fees include the cost of textbooks, iPad and stationery but exclude school lunches, extra subjects, and public examinations. Fees are paid by bank transfer or termly/monthly Direct Debit in advance.

	2025/26 Termly payment			VAT
	Fee	VAT	Total Fee	
Senior School Years 7 to 13	£7,219.17	£1,443.83	£8,663	Standard rated
Junior School Years 3 to 6	£5,841.67	£1,168.33	£7,010	Standard rated
Junior School Year 2	£5,171.67	£1,034.33	£6,206	Standard rated

Junior School Reception and Year 1	£4,500.83	£900.17	£5,401	Standard rated
Termly charge for lunch				
Junior School (including morning break snack)	£362			Exempt
Senior School (Year 7 compulsory)	£362			Exempt
Charge to pupils (Years 8 to 11) bringing packed lunches	£15			Exempt

Extra Items		Termly Fees
Instrumental*	Individual lessons	£240
	Admin charge per term	£8.50
	Theory classes for Associated board examinations	£48.50
	Hire of instruments (limit four terms)	£57.80

*When published, 2025-26 instrumental fees will be available to view on our website.

GHS is part of United Learning. United Learning offers a range of fee payment options including a fees in advance scheme. For further information, please email the United Learning finance team guildford.fees@unitedlearning.org.uk

Registration and Acceptance		Single Payments
Registration Fee	Non-refundable fee to be paid at the point of registration	£150
Acceptance Deposit	Payable on acceptance of a place. The deposit is non-refundable until your daughter leaves the school. Should your daughter not take up her place, the deposit is forfeited.	£1000

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

Notice of intention to withdraw a pupil from school, or to discontinue an extra subject, must be given in writing to the Headmistress not later than the first day of the term at the end of which the pupil is to leave. Failing this notice, a full term's fees will be charged.

The United Church Schools Trust, part of United Learning, reserves the right to require a pupil to be withdrawn for any cause which, at its discretion, it shall deem reasonable. Full Standard Terms and Conditions can be found on the GHS website and are provided to all parents on offer of a place.

Governance and School Information

GOVERNANCE

Guildford High School (GHS) is a part of United Learning, whose trustees hold the ultimate responsibility for the governance of each United Learning school. The proprietor is the United Learning Church Schools Trust (UCST).

We seek to maximise every individual's potential, nurturing the self-confidence and self-esteem that will enable them to make the most of their talents. Our objective is to bring out the best in everyone, enabling each student to become a balanced, happy and articulate person with the:

- intellectual freedom to be creative
- confidence to initiate
- flexibility to respond to challenge, change and adversity
- compassion to serve others
- spirit to enjoy life
- integrity to be trustworthy
- motivation to have a lifelong love of learning

United Learning's trustees delegate certain key roles and responsibilities to GHS's local governing body.

Title	Name	
Group Chief Executive	Sir Jon Coles	
Chair of United Learning Trust	Dame Reena Keeble	
Chair of United Church Schools Trust	Dr Rosalind Given-Wilson	
Chair of the Group Board	Mr Christian Brodie	
The Trustees	In accordance with its articles of association, the Trustees of United Learning Trust are appointed by the United Church Schools Trust board. A list of Trustees can be found here: https://unitedlearning.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/trustees	
Local Governing Body	Ms Kate Richards (<i>Chair of Governing Body</i>)	
	Ms Karen Braganza (<i>E-safety Representative</i>)	Ms Zip Jila (<i>EYFS Representative</i>)
	Mrs Anna Lise Gordon (<i>Safeguarding Representative</i>)	Dr Sian Jones (<i>Health and Safety, Sustainability & Wellbeing Representative</i>)
	Mr Robert Turnbull (<i>Vice Chair & Financial Representative</i>)	Mr Nigel Wickham (<i>Health and Safety Representative</i>)

	Mr Mandeep Gosal <i>(Comms & Marketing Representative)</i>	Mrs Lisa Edwards <i>(Education & SEND Senior Representative)</i>
	Mr Oliver Greaves <i>(Risk Representative)</i>	Mrs Katie Leah <i>(Careers & Regulatory Compliance Representative)</i>
	Mrs Sian McGrath <i>(Complaints & HR Representative)</i>	Ms Anna Chalk <i>(Education & SEND Junior Representative)</i>