

GUIDE FOR OVERSEAS PUPILS APPLYING FOR A PLACE AT MALVERN COLLEGE

UK and Malvern College Year Groups

Age	UK School Year	Malvern College equivalent	Remarks
13	9	Foundation Year (FY)	Lower School
14	10	Remove (1 st year IGCSE/GCSE)	
15	11	Hundred (2nd year IGCSE/GCSE)	Includes the Pre-6 th Form Course
16	12	Lower 6th (1st year IB/A Level)	Upper School
17	13	Upper 6th (2nd year IB/A Level)	
18+		University	

Making an application

Initial enquiries should be made 3 years in advance for entry into Year 9 and at least 18 months in advance for entry to all other year groups. The offer of a place is based upon successful completion of the entrance tests and satisfactory performance at interview. The latter are contained within the formal visit programme.

Parents should firstly contact the Registrar's office to confirm that there are places available. The Registrar will need to see a profile/CV of your child and a copy of their two most recent school reports with grades before deciding whether to proceed; these can be emailed¹ or sent by post. Note that German and Austrian pupils must have an average Zeugnis score of between 1.0 and 2.0.

Registration. The next important step is to Register your child by completing the Registration Form and paying the Registration Fee which can be done either prior to a visit or after a visit. Please do not attempt to Register your child without firstly submitting the school reports. The Form can be completed online or downloaded from our website. We strongly recommend that you register your child as soon as possible otherwise we may not be able to guarantee a place in the School and the choice of boarding house may become restricted. Pupils also have to be registered before they can sit our entrance tests.

Visiting. Next make an appointment to visit the School and as a general rule, you will need to book your appointment at least 3 - 4 weeks in advance. Please note that we expect all prospective pupils to visit the School. This is the perfect opportunity for you and your child to familiarize yourselves with the School and fundamentally to determine whether it is the right school for your child. The Housemasters and Housemistresses also like to meet candidates before accepting them into their house. Please note that the boarding House you see on your visit will be an example and is not necessarily the House that your child will join. However, candidates may request a specific house once they have visited and are registered. **Skype interviews are only allowed by exception.**

¹ registrar@malcol.org

Entrance Tests

Malvern uses a combination of on-line reasoning tests and written tests which measure a child's developed ability and potential. All pupils (less those at UK or certain overseas prep schools) sit the on-line Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4) and a 30 minute English test. The entrance tests can be taken at Malvern or it is possible to sit the tests overseas although some restrictions apply. Please contact the Registrar's office for further details. There is no formal testing day and therefore tests are sat on an individually arranged basis. Prospective pupils are expected to sit entrance tests as follows:

- **Year 9:**
 - **Common Entrance (CE) Candidates.** Children who live abroad, but are at UK or certain overseas prep schools and are taking CE, are not required to sit entrance tests nor do we pre-test. Entry for those candidates taking CE is conditional upon the child achieving a minimum average mark of 50% in the 13+ CE examination and a satisfactory Headmaster's report.
 - **Candidates not taking CE.** All other candidates are expected to take the CAT4 on-line tests and an English/EAL test. The tests are undertaken in January/February in the year prior to entry. An unconditional offer of a place is made on successful completion of the tests and a satisfactory performance at interview when the child visits the school.
- **Year 10.** Year 10 candidates should sit their entrance tests between September and March in the academic year prior to entry, but parents should note that we offer places on a first come, first served basis. The criteria for the offer of place mirrors that of Year 9.
- **Year 11.** Candidates for entry into Year 11 on the Pre-6th Form Course must also pass the CAT 4 on-line tests and an English/EAL test. These tests must be attempted in September/October and no later than 31st October in the year before entry. We recommend that candidates visit the College in the Summer Term of the year prior to entry and no later than November. An unconditional offer of a place is made on successful completion of the tests and a satisfactory performance at interview when the child visits the school.
- **Sixth Form (Year 12).** Candidates for entry onto the A level or International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes sit their entrance tests between 1 September and 31 October in the year prior to entry. However, candidates who are at an HMC or GSA school in the UK cannot attempt their tests until 1 November in the year prior to entry. All pupils take the CAT4 assessments and an English or EAL paper. In addition, those wishing to take a science will undertake a 30 min written paper on each specific science subject that they wish to study. Those intending to study Music and Design Technology also sit a written paper and any candidate wishing to study art or photography will be asked to present a portfolio. This can be received digitally.

Waiting List

Each year we have significantly more applications than available places. Therefore prospective students who delay in applying may find their names entered onto a waiting list. We would still recommend that candidates on the waiting list visit the School and take the entrance tests to ensure that they are in a position to accept a place should one become available.

Formal offer of places

A formal offer of a place is dependent upon:

- Satisfactory reports from a candidate's current school
- Formal registration
- Passing the entrance tests
- Success at interview

In order to confirm acceptance of a place for your child you will need to return the Acceptance Form and pay the Acceptance Deposit. Once we have received both the Form and the Deposit we will then notify you which boarding house your child will be joining.

Visas

If you live outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) then you will need to apply for a Tier 4 Student Visa to study at Malvern. **Parents must ensure that their child is in possession of a valid visa at the start of term and moreover to ensure that the child's passport and visa are renewed as required.** More information and advice on the process is available from the UK Visas and Immigration website (<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk>).

Joining information

New Pupils' Information will be sent to all confirmed entrants approximately six months before they are due to join the School. This includes information about term dates, uniform, transport, music tuition, etc. You will also be asked to provide information on your child's guardian (all overseas pupils must have a guardian **over the age of 25** in the UK). A sibling guardian who is under the age of 25 is acceptable, but the parents must provide the school with written authority. The Housemaster/Housemistress will also write before the end of the summer term with specific information about joining the boarding houses and arrangements for your child's arrival at the start of term.