

TORQUAY BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

ADMISSIONS AND TRANSITION POLICY 2012

Applications for the Sixth Form are welcomed from all students who would benefit from the post-16 curriculum that is offered at Torquay Boys' Grammar School subject to the following conditions being met:

- That the applicant is under 19 years of age at the start of his/her programme of study.
- That the applicant has right of abode in England.
- That the applicant meets the academic admissions criteria (see Academic Admissions Criteria).
- That acceptance of an applicant would not exceed the student admission number or the maximum class size number (see Oversubscription below).
- That any applicant for the GCE curriculum is male.
- That acceptance of a female applicant for the International Baccalaureate curriculum would not exceed the maximum female students number (see Oversubscription below), as defined by the school's constitution.

Applications are invited for places in Years 12, 13 & 14. A student in Year 12 is defined as one who is following the GCE AS Level specifications or the first year of the International Baccalaureate in a majority of his/her timetabled lessons. A student in Year 13 is defined as one who is following the GCE A Level specifications or the second year of the International Baccalaureate for the first time in a majority of his/her timetabled lessons. A student in Year 14 is defined as one who is following the GCE A Level specifications or the second year of the International Baccalaureate for the second time in a majority of his/her timetabled lessons. There is an assumption that students who complete Year 12 and meet the criteria for Year 13 will continue into Year 13 without any further action on their part as long as they meet the transition criteria (see Transition from Year 12 to Year 13 below). In all other cases it is important that prospective Sixth Form students complete an application form and meet the following admissions deadlines, as failing to do so is one of the oversubscription criteria which may be used to differentiate between students:

- For Year 12 students the deadline for application forms to be received by the school is Friday 3rd February 2012.
- For new Year 13 students or students wishing to undertake Year 14 the deadline is 1st September 2012.

The Sixth Form timetable is designed to accommodate the greatest number of chosen combinations but we cannot guarantee that every combination will be possible, so some students may be asked to re-opt. In such cases their new option(s) will be considered as though they had made them at the time that their application was submitted and in the same order of preference as the original option(s).

Prospective Year 13 and Year 14 students may undertake AS Level courses, if they qualify for a place and the chosen course(s) can be fully accommodated within their Year 13 or Year 14 timetable. To qualify for a place they must meet the relevant Academic Admissions Criteria for Year 12 and their application must not exceed the maximum class size number. If the application exceeds the maximum class size number then the Oversubscription Criteria for Year 12 admissions apply.

Academic Admissions Criteria

All students must meet the general academic admissions criteria to qualify for a place in the Sixth Form as well as the specific academic admissions criteria for the courses they have chosen, regardless of the student admission number and the maximum class size number.

For prospective Year 12 students who are undertaking or have previously undertaken GCSE examinations in the subjects outlined in Appendix A below, the general academic admissions criteria is to obtain a total of 294 QCDA points (the equivalent of 3 GCSE awards at grade A and 3 at grade B) from the subjects defined in Appendix A below. Please note the following QCDA points values for GCSEs: A* = 58, A = 52; B = 46; C = 40; D = 34; E = 28 etc.

Additionally, students who are undertaking or have previously undertaken the GCSE examinations outlined in Appendix A and wish to undertake an AS Level course or begin an International Baccalaureate Diploma course, must meet the specific academic admissions criteria for the courses they have chosen. These are defined in the Sixth Form Prospectus.

Prospective Year 12 students who have not undertaken one or more of the GCSE subjects defined in Appendix A will be considered to have met the general admissions criteria if they achieve a total of equivalent qualifications at an equivalent level or pass an internal aptitude test of an equivalent standard.

Prospective students who wish to undertake an AS Level course or begin an International Baccalaureate Diploma course in a subject which they have not previously studied at GCSE Level will be deemed to have attained the subject-specific academic admissions criteria if they have passed an equivalent qualification at an equivalent level or pass an internal aptitude test in that subject, except when this condition is waived for all such candidates.

Continuation to the end of a course

Students must maintain a record of attendance of at least 90% to continue a course except in extenuating circumstances.

Students who persistently fail to submit work or persistently disrupt the learning of others in one or more of their courses may be withdrawn from these courses.

Students who fail to meet their agreed monthly targets in one or more of their courses may be withdrawn from these courses.

Students will always be given the opportunity to enter examinations for courses from which they have been withdrawn, as external candidates.

Transition from Year 12 to Year 13

For prospective Year 13 or Year 14 students automatic transition from Year 12 to Year 13 is subject to successful continuation of at least three of the AS Level subjects they wish to continue to A Level, or achieving 24 points or above in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Mock Examination set by Torquay Boys' Grammar School at the end of Year 12. To continue an AS subject at A2 level it must be passed at grade A-C; students who achieve a D grade in a subject at AS Level would only be able to continue this subject with the support of the Department and only under a rigorous programme of monthly target setting; students who achieve an E grade in a subject at AS Level would only be able to continue this subject under extenuating circumstances.

Students who are unable to continue their studies into Year 13 may apply to join Year 12 instead. They would be subject to the same admissions criteria and oversubscription criteria which apply to all other Year 12 students.

Oversubscription

If applications exceed either the student admission number or the maximum class size number, or female applicants exceed the maximum female students number, as defined below, oversubscription criteria will be used to differentiate between successful and unsuccessful applications.

The student admission number is defined as the maximum number of students in any year group which can be accommodated by the school's infrastructure and resources without prejudicing the education of all students in the Sixth Form. For admissions in 2012 this number is 180. If this number is exceeded the Oversubscription Criteria (outlined below) apply.

The maximum female students number is defined as 25% of the student admission number. For admission in 2012 this number is 45.

The maximum class size number is defined as the maximum number of students in any teaching group which can be accommodated by the class infrastructure and teaching and learning resources without prejudicing the education of all students in that teaching group. For admissions in 2012 this number is 20. If this number is exceeded the following Oversubscription Criteria apply.

Separate processes pertain, depending on whether the maximum female student number, the student admission number, or the maximum class size number has been exceeded.

In all cases students must first satisfy the Academic Admissions Criteria as outlined above.

Oversubscription due to exceeding the maximum female students number

In cases of oversubscription female applicants must first be accepted as a member of the separately defined notional female cohort, which is equal in size to the maximum female students number, defined above. This is created by applying the oversubscription criteria below to all female applicants until the maximum size of the cohort has been reached.

If the student admission number is still exceeded, all applicants in the notional female cohort are judged alongside male applicants according to the process defined below.

Oversubscription due to exceeding the student admission number

All female applicants must first be accepted as a member of the separately defined notional female cohort. They are then judged equally according to the oversubscription criteria below.

Oversubscription Criteria for notional admission to the Sixth Form

Places are allocated according to the following order of priority:

1. Applicants who wish to continue their studies in the Sixth Form into Year 13.
2. Date of receipt of application after the deadline.
3. Applicants in care embarking on and able to undertake a programme of courses with at least 600 guided learning hours
4. Disabled applicants embarking on and able to undertake a programme of courses with at least 600 guided learning hours.
5. All other applicants embarking on and able to undertake a programme of courses with at least 600 guided learning hours.
6. Descending rank order according to GCSE points or the equivalent.
7. Applicants with siblings who would be studying concurrently at Torquay Boys' Grammar School.
8. Those living nearest the school when measured by straight line at the time the application was received.
9. Ballot

Oversubscription criteria for individual courses:

Places are allocated according to the following order of priority:

1. Date of receipt of application after the deadline.
2. Order of preference on the application form.
3. Applicants in care.
4. Disabled applicants.
5. Ballot.

Appeals

All appeals will be managed by an independent adjudicator. Please contact the school for more details.

Appendix A

The subjects from which successful applicants are required to achieve a total of 294 QCDA points (the equivalent of 3 A grades and 3 B grades) in order to meet the general admissions criteria into Year 12 are as follows:

1. GCSE English Language;
2. GCSE Mathematics;
3. The highest graded GCSE from History, Geography, Business Studies or Religious Studies
4. The highest graded GCSE from Core Science, Additional Science, Biology, Chemistry or Physics
5. The highest graded GCSE Foreign Language
6. The highest graded GCSE from any subject which has not already been counted in the total of QCDA points.

NB1 QCDA points for GCSEs: A* = 58; A = 52; B = 46; C = 40; D = 34; E = 28 etc.

NB2 No more than 58 points may be counted from any single category. Equivalent qualifications may be substituted for those outlined above at the admission authority's discretion.