



Astor

Secondary School

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Admissions Policy 2022 - 2023

Astor Secondary School Admissions Policy	
Document Owner:	Headteacher
Reviewer:	Lee Kane
Delegated Trustee:	Carol Boxall
Approval:	Headteacher
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Signature:	<i>L Kane</i>

Astor College	
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Principal: Mr L Kane Admissions Contact Name: Ms P Powell/Miss L Penn E-mail: office@astor.dfamat.com	
Type of School: Secondary, Academy, All ability, Mixed	
Age Range: 11-18 Day Pupils	
Specialisms: Arts and Military	
Published Admission No: 210	LA No: 886 DfE No: 4113
Number of Applications for Year 7 Entry September 2021: 336	
Number of Places Offered February 2020: 128	
Expected number on roll: 843	

To access general information about the College, including annual achievement and attainment tables, recent inspection reports and uniform policy, please contact the College or visit the College's website.

Open Sessions:
Open Evenings: 23 September 2021

Oversubscription Criteria

Before applying the oversubscription criteria, children with a statement of Special Education Need or an Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly. If the number of preferences for the College is more than the number of places available, places will be allocated in the following priority order-

1. **Children in Local Authority Care** – a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
2. **Current Family Association** – a brother or sister attending the school when the child starts. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters. If siblings from multiple births (twins, triplets, etc) apply for a school and the school would reach its Published Admission Number (PAN) after admitting one or more, but before admitting all of those siblings, the LA will offer a place to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the school above its PAN.

3. **Health and Special Access Reasons** – Medical/Health and Special Access Reasons will be applied in accordance with the school’s legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally this priority will apply to children whose parents’/guardians’, physical or mental health or social need means there is a demonstrable and significant need for their child to attend a particular school. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school.

4. **Nearness of children's homes to school** - we use the distance between the child’s permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child’s home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody.

In the unlikely event that two or more children in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the College, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

Supplementary Form Required: No

Waiting lists will be maintained up to January 2022 and will be ranked according to the above oversubscription criteria.

Sixth Form Admissions Arrangements
 Priority will be given to existing pupils transferring from Year 11 who meet the entrance criteria. Students are required to fill in an on-line application and a letter of application to the Principal. All students joining us will be asked to sign a Sixth Form Agreement. Entry to Advanced Level courses requires students to have five GCSE’s at grade 4 or above or the equivalent qualifications in five different subjects. The student should also have achieved a Grade 4 or above in English Language.

Any students who have not achieved a Grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics will be required to retake.

The admission number for external candidates will be **50**, but this figure may be exceeded in the event that this and the number of internal pupils transferring into Year 12 is less than the overall figure for the year group, which is **210**.

6th Form Open Evening
 18 November 2021

Over-subscription
 See Over-subscription criteria above

After a place has been offered the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- a. When the parent or learner has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time; or

- b. When a parent or learner has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; or
- c. The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from the parent or learner.

Offers and Appeals

Offers will be made on the basis of predicted performance at GCSE, with the requirement that the above grades are achieved in the final examinations prior to entry to the Sixth Form and the pupil's 4 chosen subjects being accommodated on the timetable, in feasible group sizes.

All offers made during Year 11 are conditional on pupils meeting the grade criteria specified and will only become firm offers upon confirmation of actual GCSE results. Offer letters will be made before the end of June 2022. Offers will be confirmed once the school has been notified of GCSE results in August 2022.

Where learners have achieved better results than the predicted grades they will be considered based on the grades achieved and ranked accordingly for any places that become available as a result of other learners failing to meet the required entry levels.

Transport

Please note, schools no longer have a designated area from which transport will be provided. In most instances KCC will only fund transport to the nearest school where this school is more than 3 miles from the child's home. Further information about exceptions to this rule can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/education-an-children/schools.school-transport

Kent County Council Fair Access Protocol can be found at:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/17930/Secondary-admissions-booklet-all-areas.pdf

Appendix A: School Admissions Code for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN)

(This appendix complies with "The School Admissions Code 2014)

(https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/389388/School_Admissions_Code_2014_-_19_Dec.pdf),

Pupils with statements and Educational Health Care (EHC) plans

The School Admissions Code sets out certain provisions relating to the admission of pupils with special educational needs (SEN). For example, paragraph 1.6 on pages 9-10 says:

All children whose statement of SEN or education, health and care (EHC) plan names the school must be admitted.

The school must be consulted before it is named on a pupil's EHC plan: if the school has any concerns about accommodating the pupil's needs or preparing for his or her transfer to the school, it will raise these during the consultation period.

The DFAMAT will admit a pupil from the moment a school is named on the EHC plan. Any specific arrangements to cater for the pupil's needs will be put in place as soon as possible. The named school will not delay admitting the pupil in order to make these arrangements.

Other pupils with SEN

The DFAMAT Admission criteria does not discriminate against, (or disadvantage) children with disabilities or those with SEN. The criteria is clearly outlined in our Admissions Statement.

We comply with Paragraph 1.27 of the DfE's SEN and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice which states that admission authorities:

- Must not refuse to admit a child who has SEN but does not have an EHC plan on the grounds that they do not think they are able to cater for the child's needs
- Must not refuse to accept a child simply because he or she does not have an EHC plan

Priority for children with social and medical need

The DFAMAT Admission criteria does not discriminate against pupils with social or medical needs in accordance with Paragraph 1.16 on page 13 of the DfE's Admissions Code.

Part-time admission of pupils with SEN

The DFAMAT is under no obligation to admit the pupil on a part-time basis unless it has been named on the pupil's EHC plan. The Local Authority will then be informed through the digital front door.

However, the DFAMAT can consider part-time admission if it is deemed to be an effective way of helping a child to transition from a special school to mainstream education. DFAMAT will ensure that all decisions regarding admission are made in the best interests of the child.

However, certain pupils will be considered - 'excepted pupils' - for the purpose of the limit and can be admitted even where this would mean exceeding the 30-pupil maximum.

Those with statements of SEN or EHC plans which name a DFAMAT school/college can be admitted outside the normal admissions criteria. In any such case the school/college would always liaise with the Local Authority Area Education Officer.

Pupils with parents who have SEN

The DFAMAT is not required to consider the SEN of parents during the admissions process, under the School Admissions Code. Furthermore, paragraph 1.9 (f) of the code states that admission authorities must not give priority to applicants on the basis of the educational status of their parents.

Section 2 of the code, on page 21, lists information about parents that admission authorities must not ask for during the application process. This includes details of any:

- Disabilities
- SEN
- Medical conditions

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so, they should include a written request with their application, setting out the year group in which they wish their child to be allocated a place and the reasons for their request. When such a request is made, the Head will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case, based on their professional judgement of what is in the best interest of the child, taking account of the evidence and rationale provided by the parents.