Ellowes Hall Sports College

ADMISSION POLICY
2021/2022
Date of Open Evenings/Days:  First Thursday in October  6.00pm – 8.30pm
Sixth Form:  First Thursday in November  6.30pm – 8.30pm

Parents are welcome to view the school in action the week following the open evening. Please contact the school to make an appointment.

Admission Arrangements for September 2021

The transfer to Year 7 process will be administered on behalf of Ellowes Hall Governors by Dudley LA (Admission Service) who will apply our admission criteria on our behalf. The number of intended admissions for the year commencing 1st September 2021 will be 180. Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit.

First Priority  For admission shall be given to relevant looked after children or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order.

A ‘looked after child’ is a child who is a) in the care of the local authority, or b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making an application to school. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children’s Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders). Child arrangements orders are defined in s.8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangement orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.
Second Priority  
For admission shall be given to children with a ‘serious ongoing medical condition’ where Ellowes Hall Sports College is the most appropriate school to meet the condition.

Note: Parents must provide supportive information from their child’s Hospital Consultant at the time of application in order to be considered under this criteria. This, supportive information, should include information about the needs of the child and should detail the difficulties the child would experience if they had to attend another school. Parents should also indicate why Ellowes Hall Sports College is the most appropriate school to meet their child’s medical conditions rather than any other school. Ellowes Hall Sports College Governing Body will not seek to obtain medical evidence on behalf of parents.
In accordance with legislation a child with an Education Health and Care Plan will be offered a place at the school named in the Education Health and Care Plan. This may reduce the amount of places available for children who do not have an Education Health and Care Plan.

Third Priority  
For admission shall be given to children who have a brother/sister, half brother/sister (where the children share one common parent), or step-brother/sister, living at the same address and who will still be attending Ellowes Hall in September 2021.

Note: Definition of brother or sister also relates to adopted or fostered children living at the same home address. The home address is considered to be the child’s (along with their parents’) genuine principal place of residence at the time of the allocation of places, i.e. where they are normally and regularly living. If a child is resident with friends or relatives (for reasons other than guardianship), the friends or relatives address will not be considered for allocation purposes.

Where parents have a shared responsibility for a child and the child lives with both parents for the part of the school week, then the home address will be determined as the address where the child lives for the majority of the school week. Parents will be required to provide documentary evidence to support the address they wish to be considered for allocation purposes. At least one item of evidence must demonstrate where the child lives.

Special conditions will apply in the event that one child from a set of twins or triplets does not gain admission to the preferred school through the admissions criteria. Ellowes Hall Sports College Governing Body will exceed the admission number for the school concerned to prevent separation of twins/triplets.

Fourth Priority  
For admission shall be given to ten percent (10%) of the PAN who can demonstrate a significant sporting aptitude. This will be determined by a selection test based on sporting skills and athleticism. We wish to preserve the gender balance of our year groups so the intention is that the 10% students admitted in this way be made up of 5% boys and 5% girls.

Any places that remain available once the above applicants have been admitted will be filled according to those children who live closest to the school, determined by a straight line...
measurement in metres, from the home address to the main entrance of Ellowes Hall Sports College.

Note: Random allocation will be used as a tie break, to decide who has the highest priority for admission if the distance between two children’s homes and the school is the same.

Application Process

Applications for Admission will be co-ordinated via the Dudley LA Admissions Service on behalf of Ellowes Hall Sports College Governing Body. Further detail and timescales are set out in the Local Authority’s Co-ordinated Scheme which is available from the School Admissions Service.

Late Applications

Preferences that are received after the closing date will only be considered after applications that were received within the deadline have been dealt with. There will, however, be exceptional circumstances in which a late application will be considered alongside those applications that were made within the deadline. In each circumstance supportive documentary evidence must be provided by the parent/carer at the time of application.

Waiting Lists

If Ellowes Hall Sports College is oversubscribed and children have been refused admission because other children have a higher priority for admission under the published admissions criteria, then those applicants who are unsuccessful will be asked if they wish to be placed on a waiting list.

Children on the waiting list will be ranked in accordance with Ellowes Hall Sports College published admissions criteria and the list will operate from the point of allocation of places until 31 August 2022. After this point the waiting list will no longer be in operation and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Inclusion on Ellowes Hall Sports College waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available. A child’s position on a waiting list is not fixed and is subject to change during the year i.e. they can go up or down the list.

Places that become available (below the published admission number or any number that the school agree they can admit) between the point of allocation and 31 August 2022 will be offered to children according to their ranking on this list i.e. those ranked highest will be offered first.

Repeat Applications

It is not Ellowes Hall Sports College Governing Body’s Policy to consider repeat applications in the same academic year, unless there have been significant and material change in the circumstances of the applicant.
Mid-year Admissions

Admission of children outside of their normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. Parents should make their application to the Local Authority setting out the reasons why they believe their child should be taught outside of their chronological age group.

These parents will need to make an application alongside children applying at the normal age which should explain why it is in the child’s best interest to be admitted outside of their normal age which may include information such as professional evidence as to why this is the case and why an exception should be made in the case of the child. A decision as to whether this is an appropriate course of action will be made by the School who will take into account the circumstances of the case. Parents do not have the right to insist that their child is admitted to a particular year group.

Applications received for places in year groups other than at the normal age of entry to secondary school will be treated as mid-year admissions. These applications should typically be made on a School to School Transfer Form which is available from the Local Authority Admission Services. In the event of direct applications to Ellowes regarding a mid-year admission, the Governing Body will ensure that it responds direct to the parents, advises of the statutory right of appeal where applicable and copies the correspondence to Dudley Local Authority.

Sixth Form Entry

Entry to the Sixth Form at age 16 will be based on student’s suitability for Further Education. Please see Prospectus for details. The number of intended admissions for the year commencing 1st September 2021 will be limited to 100. For more information regarding the admission process and a Sixth Form Application Form please contact Mr J Horton Head of 6th Form Tel 01384 686 560

Appeals

Appeals regarding admission should be made to Democratic Services, Council House, Dudley DY1 1HF. Please note the Appeals Panel will be Independent of Ellowes Hall Sports College Governing Body.