



ADMISSIONS: Frequently asked questions

Question	Answer
Admissions process	
<p>What are the admission rules and how do I find out if I am in the catchment area?</p>	<p>The priority areas for Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School are based on the following towns/parishes/unparished areas: Hatfield, North Mymms, Welwyn, Welwyn Garden City, Woolmer Green, Potters Bar, Knebworth, Codicote</p> <p>Hertfordshire County Council set the Admissions Policy for BHGS. Parents are advised to visit their website at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions to access all the published information on admissions and how to make an application. The closing date for Secondary Applications is October 31st 2020.</p>
<p>What are my chances of getting a place and how can I improve my chances?</p>	<p>The chances of being allocated a place depend on how many others apply, so we cannot answer this question. There is also not much we can say about improving your chances apart from you can only get a place if you do make Bishop's one of your choices and the higher you rank the school, the greater your chance of being allocated to it.</p>
Teaching and learning	
<p>What languages will my daughter study in Year 7?</p>	<p>Your daughter will study 2 languages out of French, German and Spanish. The languages chosen each year depend upon the timetable availability of languages staff. This varies each year. For example, the current Year 7 are all studying French and German. Last year's Year 7 studied French and Spanish.</p> <p>All pupils across Year 7 study the same two chosen languages, there is no difference between tutor groups. We also cannot make any guarantees that a specific language will be chosen nor will we know what languages are chosen until the timetable is finished in late summer. However, we are confident that all pupils will enjoy a creative approach to learning languages as well as exploring other cultures.</p>
<p>Do we set or band by ability in year 7?</p>	<p>The only subjects that are banded by ability in Year 7 are maths, science and computing. For these linked subjects, pupils are taught in three ability bands.</p> <p>The initial grouping is informed by Key Stage 2 test scores and Teacher Assessments as well as any particular information gained from Primary visits. CATs can also be used. Early in the Autumn Term, Year 7 will sit a baseline Maths test to confirm their groupings and to highlight topics from KS2 that need to be revised either as a class or individually.</p> <p>Setting across the wider range of subjects takes place from Year</p>

Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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What range of subjects do you offer?	Please refer to the Information Booklet on our website which has a section on the curriculum that we offer. We aim, as far as possible, to offer a broad and balanced curriculum.
My child has special educational needs, how will she be supported?	We believe that every pupil is entitled to the education that is most appropriate to her ability and needs. Please refer to our website Learning Support page for more information: https://bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk/portfolio-item/learning-support/
Pastoral care	
My daughter is shy and is worried about settling into secondary school. How does the school support the new Year 7 pupils?	At Bishop's we aim to make the transition from primary to Year 7 as smooth as possible, and will always be in touch with the primary school who know the individual girls. The Year 6 Transition website page is an example of how we supported our new Year 7 girls during transition to BHGS this year: https://bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk/year-6-transition/
How do you deal with bullying?	We have a clear Anti-Bullying Policy and treat any form of bullying seriously. Bullying is rare, but can happen in any school. We have skilled staff who work with all parties to resolve problems and move forward. We also have a very strong behaviour code that makes our expectations clear to all.
Extra-curricular	
What sorts of trips and visits do pupils get to take part in?	We offer an extensive enrichment programme, both in and out of school. Each faculty area runs a range of trips to a variety of destinations, including museums, galleries, theatres, and cultural centres. There are also field trips for specialist subjects and overseas trips such as to the WWI Battlefields and to support foreign language learning.
Other information	
What are the transport options - is there a school bus?	Bishop's is an ideal location for ease of access. We are on a main cycle route and have cycle storage, and footpaths connect to the town centre, bus and train stations as well as local residential areas. Details of public transport links and the R44 Reg's school bus which runs to and from Knebworth via Welwyn are on our website: https://bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk/contact-us/

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