



Hastings School
Since 1971

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Statement of Principle

Students who demonstrate an ability and willingness to participate and learn to the best of their abilities in an all-encompassing international environment are welcome at Hastings School. However, because Hastings School aims to provide the best possible education to all of its students, it is not possible at present to admit students who require high levels of special education due to moderate or severe learning, emotional, or behavioural needs.

Due to current Hastings School facilities and resources, we are able to consider students with mild Special Educational Needs (SEN). The decision to offer a place will be made following discussions between the Heads, SEN Coordinator, subject teachers and the respective departmental coordinators. Information from relevant professionals (e.g. previous teachers, psychologists, doctors, etc.) will be considered. If a student applying to Hastings does not provide necessary documentation in regards to their SEN and it is later found that behavioural or SEN are present and have been pointed out by other educational institutions or educational professionals, the case would have to be reviewed and admission may be revoked.

Aims

- To provide children and parents with as much information about Hastings School and the education we provide.
- To make each child's start at Hastings a happy and successful one.
- To begin a partnership with parents that will be lasting and unaffected by details related to race, religion, or ethnicity.

Early Years

At Hastings School children can begin school in Pre Nursery. Children are normally two years of age by that September. By Spanish law children may be admitted if their second birthday is during the first term. In the Nursery, pupils are normally three years of age by September. By Spanish law children may be admitted if their third birthday is during the first term. Pupils entering Nursery must already be toilet-trained. Parents are able to put their child's name down at school expressing an interest (this does not mean a place has been offered) at any time prior to the previous year they are able to start school. Once a place has been confirmed, parents are invited to an interview with the head of primary who shows them the school and explains the ethos of Hastings

and how their children will learn. Parents may register their child(ren) after this interview. Children from Nursery and above have the opportunity of meeting their class teacher and visiting their classroom during the week before school starts in September. Pre-Nursery parents are invited to an induction meeting in September followed by staggered induction mornings for the children. The standard admission number for the Pre-Nursery is 20 and the Nursery it is 28. For all subsequent years the average class size is 28 pupils per classroom.

Criteria for entry into Hastings School

Allocation of places is based on the following priorities:

- A brother or sister already at school
- Brother or sister on the waiting list
- Good report from the previous school
- Prospective students from the age of 7 are given a test of English and Mathematics. A good standard of English, (spoken and written) and mathematical understanding is required for entry to Hastings. Students aged 11 and over may be given a test in English, Mathematics and Science before entry is permitted.
- Positive impression at interview (revealing a good level of motivation and commitment).
- In some cases, an acceptable teacher's reference will be requested.
- Acceptable financial report from previous school.
- Length of stay in Madrid.

In any admission processes, all or some of these criteria may be considered, depending upon the age and circumstances of the students concerned. (Note: Registration fees are non-refundable)

Applications to join Hastings are welcome throughout the year and prospective Hastings parents are invited to meet the heads of primary and or secondary respectively, and to be shown around the relevant school buildings prior to indicating whether Hastings School is their preferred choice. An information file containing information about the school is offered to prospective Hastings parents which explains policies and the curriculum in both English and Spanish. Prospective Hastings parents are also invited to visit the school website that contains up-to-date information about the school and the frequent events and activities that take place.