



ADMISSION PRIMARY TO SECONDARY 2026 – 2027

Primary to Secondary Transfer

Shirley High School is a comprehensive 11 – 18 school taking both boys and girls. The ethos of this school is a learning environment where all students have the opportunity to enjoy their education and achieve to their fullest potential. This is due to the high expectation that we have for all areas of our school. We believe that such standards are achieved through good attendance, punctuality, development of strong personal relationships and exceptional teaching and learning experiences. We ask all parents/carers applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to our school community.

The number of agreed places in year 7 is 180. Parents/carers must fill in the Croydon Common Application Form. The Scholarship Application form can be obtained from the school website www.shirley.croydon.sch.uk and must be completed by the set date in the Autumn Term. Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, the Governing Body will apply the following oversubscription criteria, in the stated priority order.

1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children

Looked after children are defined as children in public care at the date on which the application is made. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order, immediately after being looked after. This includes children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

If an application is made under the 'looked after' criterion, it must be supported by:

- A letter from the relevant Local Authority Children's Services Department and/or relevant documents including a copy of adoption, residence or special guardianship order where applicable.
- Evidence which demonstrates that a child was in state care outside of England and left that care as a result of being adopted.

2. Sibling

At the time of application, in every case, the applicant must have a sibling (brother / sister; stepbrother / stepsister; half brother / half sister or adopted child) who resides in the same family unit at the same address, attending and expecting to attend the school at the time of the applicant's admission.

3. Medical Reason

Those who seek admission on serious medical grounds will be required to produce written medical evidence. This evidence must be submitted with the original application, supported by a registered professional medical consultant, and establish the reasons why entry to this particular school rather than any other is essential.



4. Performing Arts Scholarship (20 Places)

Up to 20 places will be allocated to children who have demonstrated an aptitude in our specialist curriculum area of Performing Arts (Dance, Music and / or Drama).

Students will benefit from bespoke extracurricular opportunities, trips designed to improve their cultural capital within Performing Arts and additional resources to help them excel within their specialist area.

5. Children Of Permanent Staff At The School

Priority may be given to children of staff when the member of staff recruited holds a post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

6. Distance From School

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's permanent address, to our main entrance by the Local Authority using a computerised measuring system (GIS) and geographical reference points as provided by the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG). In the case of separated parents, if a child spends time with both parents an agreed home address should be nominated at the time of application. Those living closer to the school will receive higher priority. For shared properties, e.g. flats, the geographical references will determine the start point within the property boundaries to be used for distance calculation purposes. In the event of applicants being equidistant from the school, applicants will be chosen by random selection using the random number generation programme hosted by Trinity College, Dublin at www.random.org to generate numbers.

WAITING LIST: Where in any year the school receives more applications than there are places available a waiting list will be operated until the end of the Autumn Term of the admission year. It is open to any parent to request their child's name be added to the waiting list. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria above.

Admission Of Children Outside Their Normal Age Group: Parents may request that their child is exceptionally admitted outside their normal age group. The admission authority will decide whether or not the individual child's circumstances make this appropriate on educational grounds.

All requests to educate a child outside their normal year group should include written explanation of why this is necessary and where applicable, evidence of the child's circumstances from a relevant professional detailing the child's educational need which makes education outside the normal age group necessary.

Performing Arts Scholarship Places

Parents / Carers will need to indicate on the Scholarship Application Form by the set date in the Autumn term that they wish their child to be considered for one of these places.

Auditions will be held in October 2025. Offers of places on the Scholarship will be given on National Offer Day.



SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

Our Vision:

To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have a right to appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

The right to appeal is to an Independent Appeal Panel set up in accordance with section 85(3) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing and the response must set out the reasons on which the appeal is made.

We want all at SHS to believe in and maintain the values of our school:

