

# COMMUNITY SIXTH FORM SCHOOL

Admission criteria 2013/14



## **PROPOSED COMMUNITY SIXTH FORM ADMISSION CRITERIA:**

The admission arrangements outlined within this document apply to admissions to community school sixth forms from the 2013/14 academic year.

Where a school operates a sixth form, students are normally accepted from other school bases as long as the school has capacity and the applicant meets the relevant admission criteria. Each school will have a different application timetable and number of places to offer. Applications should be made direct to the school.

The number of students who have applied for each course will need to be taken into account, meaning that extra students can sometimes be accommodated over the admission number if the student's chosen course is not full.

The admission arrangements apply equally to those seeking admission from year 11 within the school to those seeking transfer from other schools. All those seeking admission to Year 12 must achieve the necessary grades for access onto the courses they have chosen.

Any student refused the offer of a place in Year 12 has the right of appeal to an independent appeals panel.

Where the number of eligible external applicants for a course of study exceeds the places available then admission will be determined in accordance with the following priority of admission criteria:

1. Looked after children;
2. Students considered by the College to have exceptional social or medical needs (see exceptions below);
3. Students with siblings at the College at the time of admission;
4. Any other student.

## **Exceptions will be made as follows:**

- A child whose Special Education Needs (SEN) Statement names the parent's preferred school will be admitted to that school.
- Priority may be given to the admission of a child for whom exceptional medical or social justification is demonstrated. This could include for example:
  - a serious medical condition, which can be supported by medical evidence;
  - the recent death of a parent;
  - a significant caring role for the child which can be supported by evidence from Social Services.

Parents/carers or their representative will have to demonstrate that only the preferred school can meet the exceptional medical or social needs of the child. This can be in the form of a testimony from a medical practitioner, social worker or other professional who can support the application on an 'exceptional' basis.

## **Notes:**

**False or misleading applications:** Where the School/College has made the offer of a place in Year 12 on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application which has effectively denied a place in the sixth form to a pupil with a stronger claim, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

**Home address:** any allegations received by the admission authority of people providing false or accommodation addresses when applying for school places shall be fully investigated and, if found to be true, allocated places may be withdrawn, as appropriate. Oversubscribed schools are advised to ask parents to provide proof of residence (for example utility bills) before admitting the child. The local authority (LA) will also carry out checks as appropriate. A child's home address is defined as the address at which the child is normally resident or, where a child lives at more than one address, the address at which the child lives for the majority of the time. Where the home address is unclear, the Admission Authority will determine the appropriate address taking into account factors such as the address to which the Child Benefit Allowance or Child Tax Credit is payable, registration for medical services etc.

**Looked after child:** a 'looked after child' or a child who was 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 a 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).

**Multiple births:** defined as children of multiple birth (including those born within the same academic year cohort). We understand that parents/carers would like to keep twins, triplets and other children of multiple birth together. Where the admission criteria is applied and it is not possible to offer places to all children of the same multiple birth family we would work with the family to find the best solution for them and their children. Should it transpire that it is not possible to offer place(s) to all children within that multiple birth, the parent will be invited to nominate which child should be allocated the place(s).

**Siblings:** children are siblings if they are a full, half, step, or adoptive brother or sister, and living in the same family unit and household.

**Tie-breaker:** where we have to choose between two or more children in the same category as each other, then the nearer to the school the child lives - as measured by a straight line on the map using the City Council's electronic mapping system - the higher the priority. Measurement points will be from an internal point of the building concerned (usually the visual centre of the building). Flats are therefore taken to be the same measurement point regardless of floor of location.

**Definitive tie-breaker:** in the event of there still being a tie, there will be a random ballot using an electronic random number generator.

**Timetable for application:**

School name	Year 12 PAN (excluding those transferring from the schools own Year 11).	Application date	Normal notification date	Late applications accepted until
Plymouth High School for Girls	30	By the end of January preceding the September of admission.	By the end of February in which the academic year of admission falls.	The end of the second full week of the start of Y12 in September.
Sir John Hunt Community College	30	Applications welcome from December preceding September of admission.	After individual interview with 6th Form team and confirmation of GCSE exam results; provisional / conditional response given following interview throughout year.	The end of the third full week in September.