

## Homewood School & Sixth Form Centre: Proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number

The Directors of the Tenterden Schools Trust, Governors and Senior Leadership Team of Homewood School & Sixth Form Centre propose to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) for new Year 7 pupils from 390 to 360, to take effect from September 2023.

This proposed change will help the school by enabling an accurate and strategic planning of the curriculum, to deploy its funds and financial planning to meet the provision needed for our children in an academic and non-academic manner, and support an overall continued enhancement of our current provision. Furthermore, we look to better meet the requirements for students with learning needs or other barriers to learning through identified funding.

### Background

The proposed reduction from 390 to 360 students would mean that Homewood School & Sixth Form Centre was still a larger than average secondary school, but this change would mean we could continue to provide a high-quality education for current students as well as being able to provide the appropriate number of places for future pupils in our area.

The current model is becoming unachievable within the restrictions of our school site, especially for rooms with specific requirements, or outdoor space for all activities.

### Specific Proposal

**The Trust proposes to reduce the Published Admission Number of the school from 390 to 360 with effect from September 2023.** This means the number of places available for children in Year 7 in 2023 – and all subsequent Year 7 cohorts – will be 360.

This is the only proposed change to the admissions criteria; all other criteria, including over-subscription, will remain the same.

For children who already have a place at the school in other year groups, there will be no change. There will continue to be adequate spaces for all of our local rural primary schools and the recent closure of the High Weald Academy does not affect our capacity for those students either. Moreover, this proposal does not change the ethos or vision of our school.

### Who is being consulted?

This consultation is for the specific attention of:

- Parents of children aged between 2 and 18 years of age
- Tenterden Schools Trust staff



Principal: **Mr J K Single BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH PQSI**

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[www.homewood-school.co.uk](http://www.homewood-school.co.uk)

Homewood School & Sixth Form Centre is a trading name for Tenterden Schools Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (registered No. 07736448). Registered office: Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6LT



- All other admission authorities within the relevant area
- Kent County Council
- East Sussex County Council
- Other persons in the local area who may have an interest in the proposed new arrangements

For further information please see the Homewood School website

<https://www.homewood-school.co.uk/1090/pupil-admission-number-reduction-consultation-1?preview&pid=1090&m=page&h=0de1badf908b189c89e17dc4d5cb1c32782d5f5740d44c029217fe814c310db25941825099d81cfca4946c0c398cc4d4273469863be41c4a1fa88474a5a20ee2>

### **How to respond**

This consultation will run from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 until 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022. All stakeholders are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal to:

PAN Consultation

Homewood School & Sixth Form Centre

Ashford Road

Tenterden

Kent

TN30 6LT

Or email [clerk@tenterden-schools-trust.com](mailto:clerk@tenterden-schools-trust.com) (title email PAN Consultation)

Following this statutory 6-week consultation period, as set out in the Schools Admission Code, Trustees will consider all comments received and how to proceed.

Admissions arrangements for September 2023 will be determined by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and any subsequent objections will need to be made to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator by 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. K Douglas

On behalf of the Tenterden Schools Trust Board of Directors



# HOMEWOOD SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

## SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2023

*NB : within these criteria the term parent is used to refer to parents or legal guardians.*

## Numbers

The Planned Admission Number for Year 7 entry in August 2023 is set at 360.

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with a Statement of Education or an Educational Health Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this the Planned Admissions Number will be reduced accordingly.

## Over-subscription

If the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, places will be allocated in following priority order:

- a) Children in Local Authority Care or Children Previously in Local Authority Care
- b) 20% of intake will be admitted with reference to ability or aptitude
- c) Current Family Association – a brother or sister attending the school when the child starts.
- d) All other children by distance from the school

## Waiting Lists (from 15 March 2023)

In the case of over-subscription, after all places have been offered following the criteria, a waiting list will be kept from March 2023 in case some students prove unable to take up the places offered. Eligible students will be placed on a waiting list in descending order, according to the over-subscription criteria.

## Admission to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form

Students are able to join the School in Year 12 for Sixth Form studies. Their applications are expected to show progress from their current level of learning.



## Entry Requirements

The student has successfully completed all their Level 2 qualifications and has attained the specific academic entry requirements for entry to the courses, which are published in the Sixth Form Centre prospectus. All students must apply for Level 3 courses which will result in a minimum of 15 hours study. For level 2 courses, students must apply for the equivalent of 5 GCSEs. Students must have shown a positive attitude in their chosen subjects and a respect for the school's aims, objectives and ethos as well as demonstrating a commitment to the expectations of the Sixth Form.

## Course Duration

All Level 3 courses are two-year programmes of study. Level 2 courses are one year in length and conditional offers will reflect this. Where a one-year programme is selected, a further application will be required at the end of the first year.

## Oversubscription

No more than the Published Admission Number for Year 11 (currently 360 students) are admitted to Year 12. No more than 50% of this number will be new admissions from other institutions.

Students that meet the entry requirements following their GCSE results will be offered a place on the relevant courses and in the event of oversubscription the criteria for admission for students will be:

- a) Children in Local Authority Care or Children Previously in Local Authority Care
- b) Current Homewood Students
- c) Current Family Association – a brother or sister attending the school when the child starts.
- d) All other external applicants by distance from the school.

In the event that a single course is oversubscribed, students will be selected according to the oversubscription criteria above and alternative courses will be offered where possible.

**Admission late into Year 7 or into other year groups up to Year 11** For other applications for admission to the School such as:

- late applications for admission to Year 7
- applications for admission to years other than years 7 and 12.
- applications for admission to any year after the beginning of the school year

Places will be offered, if they are available, to applicants according to the criteria specified in paragraphs a), c) and d) above.



## General

After a place has been offered the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- When a parent has failed to respond to an offer within the time specified in the offer letter; or
- When a parent has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; or
- The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent.

The School will agree any changes to its admissions arrangements with the Secretary of State for Education. It will establish arrangements for appeals against non-admission which will include an independent element. Details of admissions and appeals arrangements will be published each year. A map of the location of the school may be found on our web-site [www.homewood-school.co.uk](http://www.homewood-school.co.uk)

## Definitions Looked After Children / Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care

A child under the age of 18 years for whom the Local Authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) or who is subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act. This will now also include children who were In-Care but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order; as well as children who were in authority care outside of the UK prior to adoption.

## Ability or Aptitude

All applicants will be invited to take part in an Assessment with the information gained from the assessment being used to select 78 students according to the scores achieved. In the event of a group of applicants having the same score at the 20% percentile the criteria for selection from that group will be according to criteria specified in paragraphs c) and d) above.

Only in exceptional circumstances will any applicant not able to take part in the assessment on the arranged date be offered an alternative date; those opting not to be assessed will be allocated places under the arrangements set out in paragraphs a), c) and d) above.



## Sibling / Current Family Association

A brother or sister attending the school when the child starts. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

If siblings from multiple births (twins, triplets etc) apply for a school place and the school would reach its Planned Admissions Number (PAN) after admitting one or more but before admitting all of the siblings, places will be offered to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the school above its PAN. The Pan will remain unchanged so that no other pupil will be admitted until a place becomes available within the PAN

## Distance / Nearness of children's home to school

The distance between the child's permanent home address and the school is measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. The school uses measurements provided by the LA and further information on how distances are calculated is available in the Admissions Booklets provided by the LA. A block of flats has a single address point reference, so applicants living in the same block will be regarded as living the same distance away from the school. In the unlikely event that two or more children live in the same block and in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

## Pupil's home address

A pupil's home address is considered to be a residential property that is the child's only or main residence and not an address at which the child may sometimes stay or sleep due to domestic or special arrangements. The address must be the pupil's home address on the day the application form is completed and it must be EITHER owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian, OR leased to or rented by the child's parent, parents or guardian under a lease or written rental agreement. If the parents live separately but share responsibility for the child and the child lives at two different addresses during the week, we will regard the home address as the one at which the child sleeps for the majority of weekdays.