



**EF ACADEMY**

International  
Boarding Schools

OXFORD

ADMISSIONS

POLICY 2020-21

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Author:	Head of School Originates in EF Academy Torbay
Individuals Involved in Developing the Document:	SLG
Document Purpose:	Sets out the criteria required for a student to enter and successfully complete an A-level or IB programme at EF Academy Oxford
Related Documents:	
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## Admissions Policy

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### Purpose

EF Academy Oxford is an inclusive 16+ school for students wishing to complete an international education as a basis for Higher Education in the UK or abroad.

The Admissions policy sets out the criteria required for a student to enter and successfully complete a course of study at EF Academy. It endeavours to be as inclusive as possible but recognizes both the need for English Language capability and the importance of academic ability in correctly admitting a student.

EF Academy welcomes students both from overseas and from the UK.

The Admissions policy does not discriminate on grounds of race, gender, or religion.

### Procedure

EF Academy operates a holistic admissions procedure. In order to join EF Academy programmes, students must demonstrate that:

- 1) They are mature enough to cope with the demands of the Academy programmes (including living in a foreign country and coping with the inevitable culture shock)
- 2) They are academically capable of dealing with the requirements of EF Academy programmes: currently, the IB Diploma and A-level at EF Academy Oxford.
- 3) They are able to study at the high-school level through the medium of the English language.
- 4) Individual interviews and testing take place in the home country. Further diagnostic testing, including Computer Adaptive Baseline Tests, take place upon arrival at school to enable the Assistant Heads: IB/A-level to develop Individual Learning Pathways in consultation with students and parents.

## **Academic entry requirements**

Students study either for the International Baccalaureate, leading in the majority of cases to the IB Diploma or, if it is in the student's best academic interests, to IB course certificates; or A-levels. Students wishing to join the course will therefore be expected to have successfully completed a minimum of two years of high school studies before being admitted into the A Level or IB Diploma Programme.

Students should have achieved grades indicating a level of ability equivalent to 5 or more iGCSEs at grades A\* to C (including Mathematics) but individual students of a lower ability may be accepted if provision for them can be made.

EF Academy is highly experienced in dealing with classes of mixed abilities and appreciates that all students develop at different rates, especially students coming from such a diverse range of nationalities and cultures.

Students who have not demonstrated iGCSE equivalency on paper, but who have the potential to complete the Diploma or A level Programme successfully, may still be admitted to the course; this is only with the express permission of the Head of School.

## **English proficiency entry requirements**

As the IB and A-level programmes are delivered through the medium of English, it is essential that students are able to function at a level which enables them to follow the programme successfully.

Students wishing to start direct onto the IBDP or A-level programme should demonstrate a level of proficiency equivalent to IELTS 5.5, TOEFL IBT 71/CBT 194, SLEP 57. Students who want to study mathematics and science A-levels, and who demonstrate ability in those subjects, may be admitted with an IELTS score of 5.0.

In some cases, depending on the student and the level of language ability, it may be possible to provide sufficient language support as part of an academic course of study.

## **Learning Difficulties/SEND.**

Students with a recognised Learning Difficulty will only be admitted where the facility to support the SEND is available. Where supporting the SEND requires additional costs then parents will be informed and liable for such. Failure to agree to such costs may mean the student cannot be admitted to/continue the course of study

## **Accessibility**

Through the Accessibility Policy the school sets out to provide an environment and curriculum which can be accessed by students with a disability.

## **Age Requirements**

Students wishing to join the IBDP or A-level programmes should be typically 16 years old at the time of their UK visa application.

## **The Bertil Hult Oxford Scholarship**

The scholarships are intended to enable top students, with financial constraints, to come to EF Academy Oxford in the expectation that they will fulfil their academic potential. Scholarships are worth up to 40% and may not be awarded each year. Full details are available from the local Admissions Office.

## **Admissions procedure**

In the first instance, students should approach their local EF Academy representative. The following documents need to be submitted to the Admissions Office.

- 1) Completed application form
- 2) All available high school transcripts, including English translation (from Grade 8 and up)
- 3) Evidence of English Language Proficiency
- 4) Completed statement of purpose
- 5) Copy of passport photo and information pages

The Admissions Office commits to answering enquiries within one working day. Once the student has been officially accepted, we will also require a completed health certificate, parental consent form, final school transcript (including English translation) and proof of insurance no later than 60 days prior to course start.

All students will also be required to complete an online assessment test (CAT4) to help inform their programme and course selection prior to arrival.

### **Responsibility for Admissions**

The Director of Admissions is responsible for admissions and the operation of this policy in the student's home country. The Head of School is responsible for the operation of this policy in the EF Academy school.

### **Transfer Students**

#### **A-Level Year 2**

Students wishing to join only the second year of the A-Level programme should first have followed the first year of a comparable A-Level course within the British school system.

In addition to the documentation outlined above, applicants will need to provide information on the subjects they studied, the awarding authority, any official exam results, and details of the grades achieved. Every effort will be made to accommodate students into the second year where relevant subjects are offered and exam board syllabuses are sufficiently complementary.

#### **IBDP Year 2**

Students wishing to join only the second year of the IBDP should first have followed a compatible programme at another IB World School. In order to ensure that the subjects offered and syllabuses covered provide sufficient compatibility to enable students to be awarded the Diploma on successful completion of their studies, in addition to the documents outlined above, applicants should provide details of the subjects they have studied in the first year of their Diploma. It will

also be necessary for the EF Academy admissions office or receiving school to contact the students' previous school for clarification and any Internal Assessment/CAS transfer information.

### **Transfer to Oxford from the Torbay or New York Campuses**

Students may submit a request to transfer from EF Academy campuses. Normally this happens at the end of a Preparation Programme or High School programme. However, it can occur in the middle of a programme but only where the subjects taken make such possible and only under the advice of the relevant Course Coordinators.