



WESTCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

An Academy Grammar School
Headteacher: Dr Paul Hayman BSc



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14th March 2019

Dear Colleagues and Parents

Consultation on Additional Form of Entry to Westcliff High School for Girls and a Change to the Admissions Criteria

Westcliff High School for Girls are undertaking a consultation on the proposal to increase the Year 7 entry from 184 pupils to 215 pupils per year and a change to the Admissions Criteria giving a priority to pupils in Year 6 where the primary school is in receipt of Pupil Premium funding for them.

This expansion and change to the Admissions Criteria will be will be totally dependent on obtaining additional capital development funding through the Selective School Expansion Fund (SSEF).

Further details of these proposals and a proforma response form can be accessed through the school's website: www.whsg.info

The consultation period runs from Thursday 14th March 2019 to Thursday 11th April 2019. Any responses to this proposal should be sent to the Headteacher by 12.00 p.m. on Thursday 11th April 2019 in any of the following ways:

By email to: generalenquiries@whsg.info (please write Consultation Response in the subject line)

By post to: The Headteacher, Westcliff High School for Girls, Kenilworth Gardens, Westcliff on Sea, SS0 0BS.

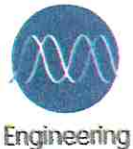
Yours sincerely,

Paul Hayman

Amanda Solomons

Dr Paul Hayman
Headteacher

Mrs Amanda Solomons
Chair of WHSG LGB



"Supporting Excellence in Education"



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**Consultation on the increase in the Planned Admissions Number and the revision
of the School's Admissions Criteria at
Westcliff High School for Girls
Thursday 14th March to Thursday 11th April 2019**

Background and context

The Government has set out its plans to allow good or outstanding selective schools to expand through the creation of a new Selective School Expansion Fund (SSEF).

Schools wanting to secure funding via this route have to show that they prioritise pupils eligible for pupil premium funding in their admissions criteria, in addition to their requirements under the School Admissions Code to prioritise looked-after children and previously looked-after children. To secure this funding schools are expected to show that they will modify their admissions arrangements as necessary, that there is a need for additional places and they can show that they are undertaking outreach with primary schools to increase applications and admissions of disadvantaged pupils, and partnering with non-selective schools to contribute to improving educational outcomes across their local area.

Westcliff High School for Girls wish to bid for funds from SSEF that will allow them to expand their facilities and to offer improved access for pupils that are currently suffering disadvantage and who may benefit from the educational experience that a grammar school education can provide. As part of this process, the Governors/Trust Board would like to consult with parents, staff, the local community and other stakeholders about the School's proposals.

The expansion of the school and the change to the Admissions Criteria are completely dependent on gaining additional capital development funding and any necessary permissions which have not yet been received.

We would like to hear your views on:

1. A proposal to expand the School on its current site through the addition of extra classrooms in order to add an extra form group to its intake in each year and in effect permanently increase the Pupil Admission Number (PAN) from 184 to 215 starting from 2021.
 2. And linked to this, a proposal to revise the School's Admissions Criteria. The School seeks to further increase the diversity of our pupil body as part of the proposed expansion. This will allow pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds a greater chance of access to our school.
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About Westcliff High School for Girls

Westcliff High School for Girls is a selective girls grammar school which also admits boys into the Sixth Form.

In 2012 WHSG was designated as National Teaching School and currently leads one of the largest Teaching School Alliances in the country and are also the lead school for the Southend, Essex & Thurrock Science Learning Partnership. In 2014 WHSG was granted the ability to sponsor schools and became the lead school in a cross phase Multi-Academy Trust through which we work with our partner schools to ensure all pupils have the opportunity to reach their potential. All the schools in the Trust are now classified by Ofsted as good or outstanding.

In 2014 the school expanded its intake to 184 pupils, and having successfully seen through this recent growth, the governors believe this further expansion will provide the opportunity to enhance our facilities further and provide more children with the opportunity to benefit from the education we offer.

In 2018, 99% of our students achieved a grade 5 in both English and mathematics, and our progress measures are significantly above the local and national averages. Our Attainment 8 score and Progress 8 score placed the school in the top 5% of schools nationally.

Why Increase our Admissions Number?

We are consistently over-subscribed for places in Year 7, with over 900 applications for 184 places each year, indicating that demand for places far outstrips our current intake. We would therefore wish to increase the Pupil Admission Number from 184 to 215 each year for Key Stages 3 and 4.

Why revise the School's Admissions Criteria?

Westcliff High School for Girls does not currently prioritise disadvantaged pupils in our Admissions Criteria. The Governors are keen to enable social mobility. The proposed changes to the Admissions Criteria can be summarised as:

The Priority Admissions Criteria

(from 2021) The school reserves the first 21 places for pupils who are classed as 'Pupil Premium' during Year 6 and score above 303 in the 11+ (17 in the priority area and 4 outside the priority area).

The Oversubscription Criteria

The first priority will be given to a child in public care or who have been in public care.

The second priority will be given to a child in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding.

The third priority will be shortest distance from the school.

How will the decision to expand the School in line with these proposals be reached?

If, at the conclusion of the consultation period, it is agreed by the School's Governors and Trust Board to proceed with the application to expand, the relevant documentation will be sent to the Selective Schools Expansion Fund. This will include a summary of the public consultation and the comments received.

We expect to hear the outcome of our funding application by Autumn 2019.

How can you respond to this consultation?

The consultation will be between Thursday 14th March to Thursday 11th April 2019 – 12.00 p.m.

You can respond in any of three ways:

1. Complete the response at the back of this document and post or email it to the address shown.
2. Write a letter and send this to the address below.
3. Email your response to: generalenquiries@whsg.info; please state Consultation Response in the subject line of the email.

The deadline for responding is **12.00 p.m. on Thursday 11th April 2019.**

Please return your completed form or your letter to the Headteacher

Please note – whilst we will note all comments and value their content, we will not be able to respond individually to completed forms, letters or emails.

Consultation on a proposal to expand WHSG and amend the Admissions Criteria

I am a Parent / Carer / Member of Staff / Governor / other interested party (*please delete as appropriate*)

Your Name:
(*optional*)

Address:
(*optional*)

Comments: (*The comments will be discussed by Governors/Directors in redacted form at a future meeting and summarised in the Business Case if one is sent to the DfE*)

School Expansion

Admissions Criteria

Please post your form to: The Headteacher, Westcliff High School for Girls, Kenilworth Gardens, Westcliff on Sea, SS0 0BS.

or email it to: generalenquiries@whsg.info;
please state Consultation Response in the subject line of the email.

Deadline: **Thursday 11th April 2019 at 12.00 p.m.**

