



Foremarke Hall
Repton Preparatory School

Policy Statement

Admissions Policy

This policy is a whole-school policy including EYFS. It is relevant to all staff and should be read in conjunction with the following:

Accessibility Policy
Behaviour Management Policy
Expulsion, Removal and Review Policy
Parental Support for the Aims and Ethos of the School
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
Transition and Transfer Policy

General information

Foremarke Hall, the Repton Preparatory School, aims to provide the highest standard of education, pastoral care and broad co-curricular experience in an inspiring and spacious setting where children are allowed to be children, encouraged all the while to develop in confidence and self-esteem into their best self.

Foremarke Hall is a day and boarding preparatory school of 450 pupils, aged from 3 to 13, of whom around 20% are boarders, set in the fifty-acre grounds of an eighteenth century Palladian mansion in South Derbyshire. As a school we believe that the most valuable education is one that is broad and balanced, enabling children to enjoy their childhood whilst benefiting from a wonderful range of opportunities both in and out of the classroom. We aim to encourage our children to use their minds well, to understand that with privilege comes responsibility, to make wise judgements; to be able to discriminate between good and better, between right and wrong. We create a caring community of children from all cultures and ethnic backgrounds, holding in high esteem, mutual respect, loyalty and commitment. We believe that physical activity is important for growing children and that many important lessons for life are learned in this arena. Finally we believe that no education is complete without a spiritual element to it, teaching children to appreciate beauty, to be creative and to value faith. With these elements in place, Foremarke Hall aims to produce young people at thirteen who are confident without being arrogant, who are achieving well in and out of the classroom and who are appreciative of the needs of others around them. Such young people will be well prepared for the senior phase of their education and life beyond.

Deciding on the right school for your child is very important and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. We very much hope that you and your child will visit Foremarke Hall. We hold Open Mornings each term which give a good introduction to the School. Details are published on our website. We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children at other times for individual visit and if you would like to arrange one of these then please do contact the Registrar, Mrs Ruth Merriman on 01283 707100 or email on registrar@foremarke.org.uk.

Equality, Diversity and Disability

Equal Treatment

Foremarke Hall is committed to equal treatment for all regardless of a child's sex, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation or social background. A number of bursaries are offered in order to make it possible for those who would otherwise not be able to afford the fees and who meet the schools admission criteria to attend the school.

Learning Enhancement

Foremarke Hall does not discriminate in any way regarding entry. The School welcomes pupils with special

educational needs providing its Learning Enhancement department can offer them the support they require. We welcome pupils with disabilities provided that our site can accommodate them. However, we strongly advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical or mental disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with Foremarke Hall before he/she is invited for a taster day so that the school can advise whether it can make reasonable adjustments in order to provide adequately for him/her. Parents should provide a copy of an Educational Psychologist's Report or a medical report if they have one or any outside agency's report that may be relevant.

The School will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisors the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if he/she becomes a pupil at the School.

Religious Beliefs

Foremarke Hall has strong Christian roots, however the School does not select for entry on the basis of religious belief.

Admissions procedures

Pre-Prep – Rising 3 - 6+ entry

Foremarke Hall operates a non-selective academic policy of admissions for both boys and girls into the Pre-Prep.

Nursery admissions

Children are eligible to start Nursery Squirrels in the term in which they have their third birthday (rising 3's), subject to sessions being available.

Children are accepted into the Nursery Hedgehogs year group from the age of 3 or 4 (their fourth birthday will have been reached by 31st August).

For both Nursery Squirrels and Nursery Hedgehogs children they must be out of nappies and be emotionally ready to be left with another adult on a regular basis.

The School is only able to offer places in the Nursery to pupils who do a minimum of 3 sessions per week.

All Pre-prep admissions

After receipt of an application for a place, the School will follow the procedure set out below:

- Each child will be invited to spend a nursery session or a day (as applicable) in the Pre-Prep in order for him/her to meet the staff and pupils and for our staff to assess his/her suitability for place at the School.
- The Head of Pre-Prep will consider the comments and assessments made by staff before deciding whether to offer a place.
- Reception onwards – The point of which a place is accepted, parents will be required to provide the school with the original birth certificate for their child in order that a copy can be taken to verify nationality.

If the school is oversubscribed preference will be given to those children with a sibling in the School.

Prep School – age 7-12 admissions (excluding 11+)

Candidates for admission to the Prep School in Years 3 – 6 and Year 8 will be assessed on the basis of:

- a satisfactory confidential report from a child's current school;
- an informal assessment in English and Maths, for form placement purposes; and
- a taster day in school with his/her current peer group.

- The Headmaster will consider the reference, assessment results and the comments made by staff before deciding whether to offer a place.
- The point of which a place is accepted, parents will be required to provide the school with the original birth certificate for their child in order that a copy can be taken to verify nationality.

Parents of children who wish to be considered for a 7+ Scholarship should read the section on Scholarships and Bursaries below.

If the school is oversubscribed preference will be given to those children with a sibling in the School.

Prep School - 11+ admissions

Candidates for admission at Year 7/11+ will be assessed on the basis of:

- entry examinations in English, Maths and a reasoning paper (Verbal and Non-Verbal);
- a confidential report from the child's current school;
- a taster day.
- The Headmaster will consider the reference, assessment results and the comments made by staff before deciding whether to offer a place.
- The point of which a place is accepted, parents will be required to provide the school with the original birth certificate for their child in order that a copy can be taken in order to verify nationality.

All children entering Year 7 are invited to Year 7 Welcome Day which takes place towards the end of the summer term.

Parents of children who wish to be considered for an 11+ Scholarship should read the section on Scholarships and Bursaries below.

If the school is oversubscribed preference will be given to those children with a sibling in the School.

As a statutory requirement we will forward your details to the Local Authority when your child joins or leaves Foremarke Hall at non-standard transition times i.e. after the start of Reception class and before the end of Year 8.

Scholarships and bursaries

Purpose of Scholarships

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and celebrate exceptional talent. In recognition of this achievement the scholar is offered up to a maximum of 20 per cent reduction in fees throughout his/her time at Foremarke Hall provided that the criteria for continuation of the award are met on annual review.

Foremarke Hall offers scholarships for excellence in the following areas:

7+ Scholarships

Candidates will be assessed in numeracy and literacy skills. Although this exam is open to all, it is set at scholarship level and we recommend that only children attaining Level 3 (SATS) in English and Mathematics or a standardised score of 130 on a recognised formal assessment test should be entered. Please note that any awards made will be based *purely* on the morning's performance and may be awarded to both internal and external candidates.

11+ Academic Scholarships

In the January preceding entry children are invited to our entry and scholarship morning. Those candidates showing scholarship potential are then invited back for an interview with the Headmasters of both Foremarke Hall and Repton School (11+ academic awards continue from age 11 – 18 years in conjunction with Repton School provided the pupil meets the criteria for continuation applicable on annual review).

Candidates will be assessed in Maths, English and Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning and we recommend that only children who are in the top quarter of their current year group and with standardised scores of 120+ be entered. If there is any uncertainty about your child meeting these criteria, please do speak to his/her current school.

11 + Music Scholarship

We invite applications from parents of children who:

- are of Grade 4 standard and possibly with a second instrument to offer (including voice)
- will be committed to the extra curricular music programme within the school and be a dedicated member of various musical ensembles
- have preferably covered some ABRSM theory

Children will be expected to play/sing two contrasting pieces on their first instrument/voice and one piece on the second. Aural tests will be given—in line with the first instrument's grade. Sight reading will be given on the first instrument only.

11 + Sport Scholarship

We invite applications from parents of children who have:

- an exceptional talent and can make a major contribution to our senior teams
- played to a high level
- a high level of fitness, co-ordination and commitment
- an excellent attitude towards sport
- potential to learn new skills and take their abilities to the highest level

A sporting curriculum vitae which details school, club, regional, academy, and national representative participation and includes written references from the coaches of the teams concerned will be required. This will be used to decide who to interview for possible awards, so please be as thorough in its preparation as possible.

11+ Drama Scholarship

We invite applications from parents of children who:

- are talented actors and display the ability to perform a wide variety of roles
- have shown themselves to be reliable, able to learn lines and committed to the productions in which they have been involved
- are good listeners and able to take direction
- participate well in group work, in drama lessons and are able to co-operate and work with others effectively
- display an enthusiasm for drama

A curriculum vitae which details relevant drama experience and includes two written references will be required. This will be used to decide who to audition for possible awards, so please be as thorough in its preparation as possible.

Bursaries

Bursaries are means tested and both parents are required to provide proof of their income and assets.

We encourage parents of scholars who anticipate that they will experience difficulty in meeting the balance of the tuition fees to apply at the same time for one of the schools means tested bursaries described below or when they register their child.

The School's practice is to allocate its available bursary funding to pupils on entry to the school. The School's expectation is that parents who do not choose to apply for a bursary at the time that their child is being assessed will not require financial support throughout the time that their child attends the school except in wholly unforeseen circumstances.

No bursaries are available in the Pre-Prep.

Overseas Candidates

We welcome overseas pupils from Year 3 upwards who can study at Foremarke Hall as boarders provided that they have a relative or legal guardian living in the UK with whom they can stay for some exeat weekends and who will take responsibility for all travel arrangements to and from the school at the beginnings and ends of each term, including half terms. However, parents of overseas pupils should appreciate that Foremarke Hall does not run a short-term study program and expects overseas pupils to finish the course of study of a minimum of a year but preferably two or more years. Parents/guardians are expected to disclose any learning enhancement/medical issues at registration stage.

Overseas candidates may arrange to have papers sent to their current school for completion.

Fluency of English

Subjects are taught in English at Foremarke Hall. In order to cope with the high academic and social demands pupils must have a fair grasp of the English language. In order to maximize the child's potential at Foremarke it is necessary for any learning enhancement/medical issues to be disclosed at Registration stage.

Accuracy of Information

It is essential for all concerned and particularly for the successful education of the pupils that all information provided by parents is up to date and accurate. The offer of a place at Foremarke will be withdrawn or a pupil asked to leave should it emerge that the information provided during the admissions process proves to be inaccurate.

Review

The 'Admissions' policy is the responsibility of the Governors of Repton Preparatory School. The Governors in conjunction with the School's Admissions Office and will review the Policy in accordance with the school's policy review cycle.

Last Reviewed: Summer 2016

Next Review: Summer 2017