



4.1 Admissions Policy

Introduction

King's College International School Bangkok (King's Bangkok) is a selective international school and we provide a distinctive education based on the ethos of King's College School, Wimbledon. We aim to recruit students and parents who can help us to fulfil our mission of becoming one of the best schools in Asia. The school will cater for boys and girls from 2 to 18 years of age.

Throughout the year, we invite parents to submit applications for students. This can be done online through our website on OpenApply. Registrations are accepted from birth, so applicants for admission should register their child as early as possible.

Throughout the year, we will hold regular events for both prospective and registered families. The dates of these events are advertised on our school website and on our social media platforms.

We hold open mornings to allow parents to see our site. Tours will be arranged as well as opportunities to hear the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) speak about the school. Members of the SLT will also meet small groups of parents throughout the year and take them on tours of the school. We want parents to understand the incredible facilities we have to offer, but more importantly get a feel for the school and the happy learning environment we have created.

1 Ethos

The aim of the admissions process is to identify a student's potential as well as progress to date. We are looking for well-rounded students with a genuine interest in learning, along with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. We would hope that students at King's Bangkok are naturally given to inquiry, research or asking questions; eager for knowledge and intellectually curious. The fostering and development of an inquisitive mindset will be a key aspect of a King's Bangkok education. The school will emulate King's College School, Wimbledon's strong traditions in music, drama, sport, art, debating and community partnerships. There are many co-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual and we look for evidence that prospective students and their families support this aspect of the school.

2 Admissions procedure

For the youngest students, selection is based upon student character to ensure that they will feel confident exploring for themselves and learning without being directly led every step of the way. Our child-centred approach to the early years is essential in building the skills of independence and resilience, which run through all aspects of the school. We also take into account the educational attitudes of the parents. This



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is important as we want parents to share our educational vision. This allows us to work as a team, united in giving our students a consistent message both at school and at home.

Children in the early years and their parents are invited to spend time exploring various learning stations in our classrooms. The children are observed in their play and also spend time interacting with staff. This is followed up with a parent interview with a member of the admissions' team and/or Senior Leadership Team. At all points of entry, the interview is an important part of our assessment process. No specific preparation for the entrance assessment is needed.

For entry into Years 1 and 2 we invite all applicants to a session in which children are given the opportunity to explore our learning area. Borrowing from the King's Wimbledon pre-prep, our "Getting to Know You" sessions are very informal. We put out a variety of activities for the children to play with, spend time interacting with them and see how they interact with other children of similar ages. Where possible, there is a short group session to see how the children respond to our teachers, while the parents are interviewed by one of our admissions team. We also request a report from their previous school, should they be attending one. There is no preparation needed for these sessions and we hope that they are fun and enjoyable.

Students who join the school in Years 3 to Year 6 are ready to be assessed more formally. We are still looking at the whole child and value kindness, good manners and wisdom very highly. However, we also ask students to sit a set of tests to give an indication of academic potential. Students do not need to study for these tests as they test their ability in English and their potential in other areas of the curriculum. Previous schooling should not influence the outcomes of these tests. Where possible, students are also observed doing a task with others to see their relationships with children and their problem solving skills. We also interview parents and gather references from the candidate's current school. As well as academic merit, we look for what else each candidate might offer in terms of other qualities and talents and his/her own character. Interviews are not offered to candidates whose test scores and/or references suggest they are not ready to join King's Bangkok or who we feel would not be able to access our curriculum.

Students in the Senior School are invited into the school in groups. The students will be taken to an appropriate testing room and their parents will be asked to wait for the parental interview.

All students will complete a computer test and then complete a reading and creative writing task which will last for 30 to 45 minutes.

All parents will be interviewed by a member of the admissions team or the senior leadership team. The purpose of this interview is to understand whether the parents' educational goals align with those of the school and whether the children will make the most of the opportunities in the school.



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The admissions team and a member of the senior leadership team will review school reports, the online test results, the reading/writing task and parent interview notes and decide the outcome of the assessment.

3 Assessment outcomes

All applications are reviewed and parents are given one of three outcomes:

- The student is **accepted** and the parents are given one week to pay a registration fee to secure the student's place;
- The student is placed on the waitlist (if they pass the admissions assessment, but no place at the school is available yet) and parents will be asked to pay the wait list fee. The fee is equal to the registration fee and is non-refundable/non-transferable. When a place becomes available, the wait list fee will act as the registration fee. If a place is still not available after 12 months of being placed on the waitlist, the wait list fee will be refunded in full, or parents can request to remain on the waitlist;
- In individual cases the school may invite a student to retest at a later date. The school reserves the right to change the type of assessment to best meet the needs of the school and the student; or
- The student is **not successful at this assessment point** and we do not feel that they can benefit from our education. This is not a statement that the student is not able, it is simply that we feel that they may not be ready for school or are unable to access our curriculum.

Applications will only be considered when the application form has been completed and the non-refundable application fee paid.

4 Equal opportunities

King's Bangkok considers candidates for admission regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, social background or disability. We make efforts to ensure that we account for students with English as an additional language. Students with a different first language to English should not, in any way, be deterred from applying.

4.1 Special needs

If a candidate suffers from a disability that places them at a disadvantage to other students, provided we know about the disability, we will make reasonable adjustments to ensure that they are not disadvantaged, to the extent required by law. We advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us before the student sits the entrance exam so that we can make adequate provision for them. Parents should provide a copy of an educational psychologist's



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report or a medical report to support their request, for example, for extra time or other special arrangements.

We cannot give extra time for the online assessments as it is a timed exam designed to take into consideration students with slow or poor reading skills in English. For the creative writing task part of senior school admissions, a 10% extra time allowance can be given for students who request it along with evidence from a recognised child psychologist or relevant medical professional indicating a clear need for additional time.

We will thoroughly discuss, with parents and their medical advisers, the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if they become a student at the school. We will accept students as long as we feel we have the resources to give them the best education possible.

4.2 Access arrangements

The school seeks to ensure that prospective students who are disabled or who have a special educational need are not treated less favourably or unfairly during the admissions process. Exam concessions and access arrangements in the entrance examinations allow candidates with specific learning difficulties, disabilities, or long-term medical conditions to access the examination and show what they know and can do.

4.3 Fluency in English

In order to cope with the high academic and social demands of King's Bangkok, we consider English ability to be very important. However, for younger children, we recognise that they must have a secure base in their mother tongue before learning a second language. We also realise that students' English ability can be hindered if they have been given insufficient opportunity to speak the language. We are looking for students and parents who value the ability to understand and communicate in English. We also have a robust system of EAL support within the school and recognise the need to support all students.

5 Summer-born children

Research and experience have shown that children born between April and September (summer-born children) are often disadvantaged socially and academically at school. Therefore, we reserve the right to defer the entry of summer-born children or to ensure they are placed into a year group that we think suits them most. Each case is considered on individual merits and in discussion with parents.

6 Sibling policy

Each candidate is assessed for a place at the school on his or her own merits. Where a candidate has a sibling with a current or very recent connection with the school, the school reserves the right to take this



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into account to help a boy or girl of sufficient ability to attend the same school as their sibling. However, there may be occasions where, in the professional judgment of the school, the sibling candidate is considered likely to thrive better in a different academic environment. Students will also be assessed on their social skills and relationships with other children.

7 Scholarships

The school will offer scholarships where we feel it would benefit exceptional children. Further details are available through our [Bursary and Scholarship policy](#).

8 Safeguarding

For all ages of children, once they are admitted into the school, we send a confidential child protection reference to the student's previous school to ensure there are no safeguarding or child protection concerns that we need to be aware of.

9 Terms and conditions

Copies of the school's terms and conditions are sent to the parents as part of the admissions process and are available in hardcopy from the school admissions office.

10 Complaints

We hope that parents and children will have no cause for complaint about our admissions process. If they do, they should contact the registrar in the first instance. A copy of the school's Complaints Procedure is available on the school's website and can be sent to parents upon request.

11 Policy changes

All policies are reviewed regularly and are subject to change.