



St Christopher's Prep

A Brighton College School

Admissions FAQs

What are the main steps in the admissions process?

Once you have had a chance to visit the school or talk to the Head we then recommend that you register your son/daughter with us. There is a £100 non-refundable registration fee payable and you must complete a registration form. We will then invite your son/daughter for an Explore & Learn session (for Reception pupils only) or a Taster Session (for Year 1 and 2) or for online assessments and a Taster Session for those wishing to join Year 3 and above.

Once these are complete we hope to be in a position to make an offer of a place or a place on our waiting list. To accept this offer you must pay a £500 deposit and sign our Terms and Conditions.

What is the advantage of joining St Christopher's in Reception?

Joining St Christopher's in Reception gives your child the best start to their education. Our dedicated Glebe Villas site offers a vast, fun and exciting learning environment for our youngest pupils. We spend time on teacher-led but child-initiated learning, with time in the curriculum for academic subjects as well as all the important co-curricular activities which children should experience. Whether it's Beach School, Forest School, music, Mandarin, sports or technology, pupils are encouraged to approach new experiences with a growth mindset throughout their time at school.

Can my child join St Christopher's after Reception year?

Yes. Places do come up from time to time to join at other points during the school year and also at the start of other years in the school. Please speak to the Registrar about your particular needs and we will always do our best to ensure a smooth transition for your child whether that is at the start of a term or after a half term.

Do you accept pupils who have been educated in the maintained sector (state school system)?

Yes we do. We welcome applications from children from a diverse range of backgrounds, many of whom will not have previously attended an independent school. One of the key differences that children mention is the breadth of subjects our pupils study when compared to the largely maths and English based curriculums that they follow currently. From a young age our pupils study geography, history, French, sciences, maths, religious studies, music, drama, art and sport, to name but a few.

Is the procedure different for pupils joining from a state school?

No, the procedure is the same.

If you are considering joining St Christopher's from a state school and would like to know more about Prep Schools or the independent sector in general, our Head and Registrar are very happy to help and are happy to answer your questions, no matter how small. It is worth mentioning that, in our experience, many parents with children in state primary schools, do not look for a place in a Prep School until their child is in Year 6. This has left many families disappointed when they discover that St Christopher's is often full at that point and the process for senior school entry (when the child moves on to Year 9) is well underway. If you are considering joining a Prep School, we recommend that you start as early as possible.

Registered office: 33, New Church Road, Hove, BN3 4AD

Tel: 01273 735404 office@stchristophershove.org.uk www.stchristophershove.org.uk [@stchrishove](https://www.instagram.com/stchrishove)

Registered Charity No 307061 Co Registered No 4501448

Does St Christopher's accept applications from pupils schooled abroad, whether they are British citizens or not?

Yes we do. We have a diverse pupil body with many pupils having a non British member of their immediate families. As part of the Brighton College Family we also benefit from their status as a 'Highly Trusted Sponsor' with UKVisas & Immigration (UKVI). This means that the College is able to sponsor non-EU nationality pupils for their Child Student Visa.

Will my child have the same opportunities to apply to senior schools as your pupils if they join the school later than Reception?

Yes. All St Christopher's families receive personal support from the Head and Deputy Head Academic in the senior schools application process. All selective senior schools now require pupils to do Pre Testing for entry to their schools at the start of Year 6. Pupils at St Christopher's are fully prepared for these which ensures they are successful and gain places at the top senior schools for a Year 9 start. If you would like your child to go to a selective senior school we strongly recommend that children join us as early as possible.

Do you accept applications for Year 7 places?

Yes, we do accept applications from pupils wishing to join us in Year 7. Most senior schools will allow pupils to submit applications and complete Pre Tests during their Year 7. Naturally, there are fewer senior school places available at this stage and the process is more competitive. By this stage many of the schools will have already offered the majority of their places to pupils who did their PreTests in Year 6.

Will you consider my child joining mid year?

Yes. So long as we can guarantee a smooth transition we will always do our best to accommodate a start date even if that is mid term.

Do you accept Government Childcare Vouchers?

We are a small school and do not have a nursery. We are not therefore registered to accept Childcare Vouchers. However, your Tax Free Childcare account can be used to pay for some extra curricular activities, although cannot currently be put towards tuition fees.

Please contact Natasha Everard, Registrar, on registrar@stchristophershove.org.uk or 01273 716 853 for any further questions about Admissions.

