



# Marling School

An 11-18 Grammar School for Boys

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To whom it may concern,

## Notice of Consultation: Admissions Arrangements for Marling School

In line with legal requirements set out in the School Admission Code 2014, we are consulting on changes to our admissions arrangements from September 2019.

There are two significant changes that we highlight below:

### 1. A change to allocation arrangements for students eligible for Pupil Premium funding

Marling School is committed to being accessible, representative of the whole community and providing every student with the opportunity to access a grammar school education. To this end, the Governing Body has previously changed our test provider, identified Free School Meals students within the allocation criteria, and increased the number of places at the school.

The Governing Body have been considering ways to further strengthen this commitment. In line with other grammar schools in the county and around the country, we are now proposing to increase the way we prioritise Free School Meals students and to also include those students who have been able to claim Free School Meals at any time over the last 6 years and are therefore entitled to Pupil Premium. This would change our oversubscription criteria to the following, for entry to the school in 2019:

- Where applications from candidates **who have met the qualifying standard** exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which candidates to admit:
- Any children in public care (*"looked after" children or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order*) **who have met the qualifying standard**
  - Any candidate attracting Pupil Premium funding (those who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the six years prior to the closing date for registration for the Test) **who have met the qualifying standard.**
  - Other **qualifying candidates** in test rank order.

This means that for entry in September 2019, those students who are entitled to Pupil Premium and meet the qualifying standard for entry to the school will be guaranteed an offer of a place.

### 2. A change to our Sixth Form Admissions Policy to admit girls and to increase our Sixth Form admissions number

Our Sixth Form is currently operating in collaboration with Stroud High School and we have shared delivery of timetabled lessons. This collaboration has been very successful over the years but faces significant challenges in the future because of the following:

- Each school has been going through a process of expansion at entry to Year 7 and with the Sixth Forms the largest they have ever been, they are set to grow even further in the near future. In order to sustain and manage this growth each school will need to ensure that its Sixth Form remains an integral part of their school whilst extending choice for students who wish to pursue a post-16 grammar school experience.
- Recent reforms to post-16 provision mean that each school will need the flexibility and autonomy to create a Sixth Form that suits the needs of the students they are responsible for. This, combined with the increased levels

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of accountability in the educational system, means that as the schools expand, the current model of collaboration will not be sustainable in the future, nor will it be in the best interests of our students.

The schools have therefore been working together over the past few months to look at the future of our Sixth Forms. Both Governing Bodies are in agreement that the best way forward is for Year 12 to be taught entirely by their own school from September 2019 and for both Sixth Forms to then be operating independently across Years 12 and 13 from September 2020.

Marling School remains committed to being a grammar school that provides single gender boys teaching for Years 7 to 11 and a co-educational experience for Sixth Form education. For this reason we are changing our admissions criteria to admit girls to the Sixth Form from September 2019. We have capacity to take further students into the Sixth Form to accommodate the boys coming through the school, the growing interest from students from other schools and any girls who wish to join the Sixth Form. With this in mind we are proposing to increase our Sixth Form admission number from September 2019 to a maximum cohort of 200 with a minimum planned admission number of 50 external candidates.

You have received this letter as part of a consultation on Admissions Policy changes for Marling School in 2019. The consultation will run for 6 weeks from Thursday 14 December 2017 until Friday 26 January 2018.

The consultation version of the Marling School Admissions Policy for September 2019 Entry is available on the school website at <http://www.marling.gloucs.sch.uk/admissions/>

If you would like to submit any comments regarding the above proposal please forward them in writing, by Friday 26 January 2018, to:

Lynne Pidgley, Clerk to the Governors, c/o Marling School, or by email to: [Lynne.Pidgley@marling.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:Lynne.Pidgley@marling.gloucs.sch.uk)

All comments will be considered by the Governing Body following the close of consultation, before the final policy is determined and published on our website.

Yours faithfully,



Stuart Wilson  
Headteacher



Nigel Riglar  
Chair of Marling School Governors