



RADLEY

Admissions Policy

October 2025

Introduction

Radley College is an academically selective independent boarding school for around 770 pupils aged 13-18.

Radley has a Christian ethos but we do not select for entry on the basis of religious belief. While there are compulsory Chapel services most evenings and on Sunday mornings, we welcome boys of any faith (and none).

All admissions criteria at Radley take into account our obligations under the 2010 Equality Act and we seek to ensure that no applicants who meet our entrance criteria are discriminated against in contravention of the Act.

Radley encourages applications from candidates from as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible as long as they meet the criteria for entry. We are committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background.

The two main entry points to Radley are in Shells (Yr. 9) and Sixth Form (6.1). Radley also holds an 11+ entry process for boys applying for a funded place via our Radley Keys Award, a few of whom, if successful in the application process, are given the option of a funded place in a prep school for two years (Yr. 7 and 8) before joining Radley in Shells. Occasionally, places also become available in Removes (Yr. 10).

The Admissions Process

Shells (Year 9)

Boys are admitted to Radley from the age of 13 and will only be admitted after their fourteenth birthday in exceptional circumstances.

There are four routes:

1. Radley List: for boys registered early, usually by the age of 4. Assessment in Year 6 (ISEB Common Pre-tests, Head's report and interview).
2. Open Entry: Applications due by July in Year 5. Assessment in Year 6 (ISEB Common Pre-tests, Head's report and, for shortlisted candidates, an interview).
3. Scholarship: Assessment in Year 8. Successful candidates may be eligible for a means-tested bursary.
4. Funded Places from 11+ (The Radley Keys Award): We offer a small number of places to boys attending a state primary. Assessment is in Year 6 and, following means testing, applicants can be offered an all-inclusive award (100%+ of the fees). Successful candidates may also be financially supported for years 7 and 8 at a prep school before joining Radley.

Sixth Form (Year 12)

Entry is open to any candidate aged 16 by the September of the year of entry. If a candidate is slightly older and comes from an educational environment with different academic years, then Radley may also consider his entry. Funded places and Keys Awards, for state educated pupils, are also available at Sixth Form.

Candidates will attend an Assessment Day at Radley in November in Year 11 when they will sit papers in two of their chosen A-Level subjects and have two interviews.

Selection Criteria

Whilst Radley is an academically selective school with high standards, the College is looking for well-rounded pupils with potential and interests that stretch beyond the curriculum.

The following criteria are used by the College when offering places:

- Academic potential – successful candidates will perform strongly in entrance examinations, other test scores, references and interviews. (EAL candidates may be given additional tests to demonstrate a satisfactory level of spoken and written English);
- For Sixth Form entry, offers are not conditional on I/GCSE results (or their equivalent) but candidates who have taken public exams are required to submit their results;
- Co-curricular achievements and potential;
- Motivation to contribute to all areas of College life;
- Behaviour – the College will only accept boys with a good record from their previous school;
- Full disclosure of any other issues that the school should be aware of (see Special Needs and Disability);
- All fees due at the applicant's present school have been paid (if applicable) and the parents are able to satisfy the school that they are in a position to pay the fees for Radley College (unless they have declared, at the point of assessment, that they will need financial support).

Siblings

The school has a strong family ethos and encourages those with family connections to apply. However, admission is not automatic and there may be occasions when the school judges that a brother is likely to thrive better in a different academic environment. Younger siblings of a boy with an unconditional offer are added to the Radley List (if not already on it) as long as his parents complete a Registration Form and pay the fee.

Special Educational Needs and Disability

We do not discriminate in any way regarding entry, in keeping with the Equality Act 2010. We welcome pupils with special educational needs providing that our Academic Support Department can offer them the assistance that they need. We also welcome pupils with disabilities and health and medical conditions provided that we can offer them adequate and appropriate support and that our site can accommodate their needs. However, we require parents to disclose their son's requirements as early as possible in the admissions process.

Parents should provide the school with a copy of any up to date medical or educational psychologist's reports to enable the school to make any reasonable adjustments during the admissions process and, if and when, the pupil joins the school. Exam access arrangements are given in line with the current JCQ regulations.

Overseas Applicants

We welcome overseas applicants at Radley College provided that they have a parent or appointed Guardian living in the UK with whom they stay during holidays, half terms and exeats or in case of emergency.

Responsibility for the appointment of Guardians rests with the parents of the pupil concerned. Please see the Educational Guardianship Policy and Agreement.

Under UK immigration regulations, all non-UK or non-Irish citizens wishing to attend a school in the UK, must have a valid visa or other proof of settlement status and the College will need evidence of this. The College is also required to ensure that all students at the school have the right to study in the UK and will ask for identification documents as a matter of course during the admissions process.

The College has the appropriate sponsorship licence to support child student visa applications however the responsibility for the visa application process rests with the applicants and their parents. The College works with Sable International, an approved immigration specialist, to assist with the process.

Funded Places

Radley is committed to broadening access to the school by offering means-tested funded places. Finance should not be a barrier to entry for children who we deem would benefit from a Radley education and who would contribute significantly to life at the school. Our funds are limited and therefore awards are prioritised for those who reach scholarship or exhibition level.

Both parents are required to provide proof of their income, assets and expenditure. The level of support depends on parental need but can extend to full fee remission.

A funded place offered to one pupil does not necessarily mean that a sibling will also be given support.

Scholarships

Academic and Co-Curricular Scholarships and Exhibitions are awarded on merit. They carry considerable prestige. Tenure of an award will normally be for the pupil's entire career but is subject to review and is conditional on satisfactory progress and performance.

Complaints

The offer of a place at Radley College is at the discretion of the Warden and his decision is final. Whether or not parents have a child currently at the school, in respect of a boy who is a new applicant, the parents and school are not in a contractual relationship at this stage, so the Complaints Procedure does not apply.

Terms and Conditions

Terms and conditions are published within the Parent Contract which is available on the website.

Personal Data

Personal data provided to the College during the admissions process will be processed and retained with due regard to applicable data protection legislation and the College's Privacy Policy.

*Full details of the admissions process are available on the school website in the Admissions section. All queries should be directed to The Director of Admissions, Radley College:
admissions@radley.org.uk*