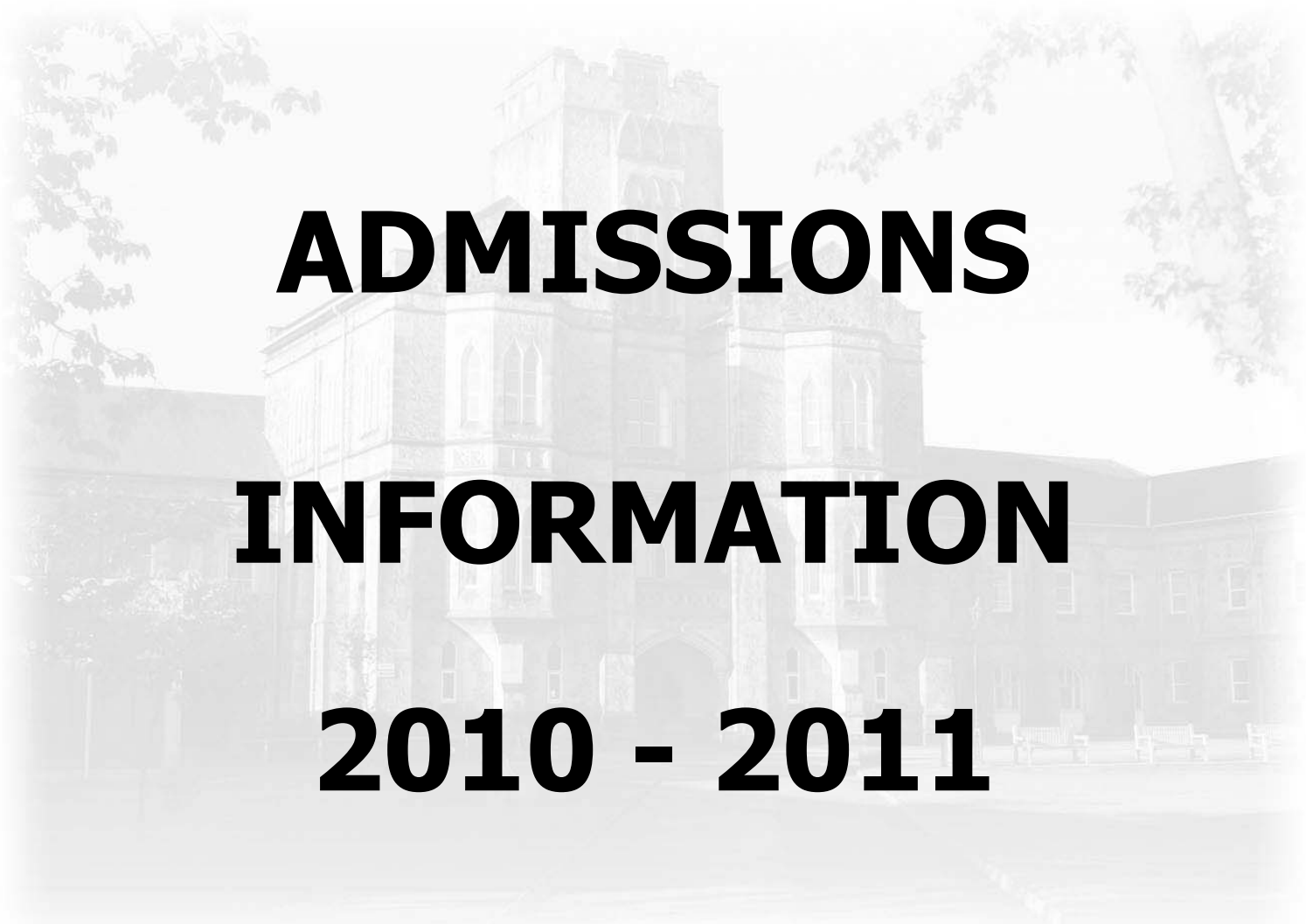


# RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL



# **ADMISSIONS INFORMATION 2010 - 2011**

## **ADMISSIONS TO RIPLEY ST. THOMAS CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL & LANGUAGE COLLEGE: 2010-2011**

The Governors will make available in September 2010 a total of 256 places. Of these, 218 (i.e. 85%) will be admitted on Church grounds without reference to the pupils' ability or aptitude. However, to reflect the fact that the school is also a DCSF designated Specialist Language College, 38 places (i.e. 15%) will be awarded on grounds of aptitude for language learning, as determined by an Aptitude Test.

### **APPLICATIONS ON APTITUDE FOR LANGUAGE GROUNDS**

In the case of admittance by aptitude, those 38 judged by means of an aptitude test to have the greater aptitude for language learning will be offered places. The test will take place on Saturday 3rd October at 9.30am. Applications to the school should be received by Monday, 21st September, 2009.

### **APPLICATIONS ON CHURCH GROUNDS**

In the event of there being more applicants than places the Governing Body will allocate places as detailed in the published Admissions Policy.

All applicants are required to complete a Supplementary form, countersigned by the appropriate Vicar, Minister, Priest etc., detailing the pattern of worship of the parent(s) and the child. The Supplementary form is available from the School, and must be returned to the Admissions Officer at the School, by Friday 16th October 2009.

Any application that is received without submission of a Supplementary Form will be considered after all others and will be ranked solely according to the straight line distance from home to school.

### **APPLICATIONS ON BOTH GROUNDS**

It is perfectly acceptable to apply on both grounds of Church and Aptitude. In each case the application will be judged on its own merits according to the respective criteria. However, it must be noted that the Local Authority's Common Application Form (ADM2) only allows for one preference choice. If Ripley is placed as the first, second or third preference that preference will hold for both the Church and the Aptitude application.

### **TIMETABLE FOR ADMISSION: KEY DATES**

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| By Monday 21st September 2009 | : Completed application form for Language Aptitude Test to be returned to Ripley School                   |
| Saturday 3rd October 2009     | : Language Aptitude Test takes place - 9.30am Ripley School   |
| By Monday 12th October 2009   | : Parents will be notified of the results of the Language Aptitude Test                                   |
| By Friday 16th October 2009   | : Common application form to be returned to Primary School or completed online                            |
| By Friday 16th October 2009   | : Supplementary forms detailing pattern of worship of parent(s) and child to be returned to Ripley School |
| By Monday 1st March 2010      | : Parents informed by letter by the Local Authority of the allocated secondary school                     |

**RIPLEY ST THOMAS CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Determined Admissions Policy 2010 – 2011**

**Important Dates for Admissions to Ripley St Thomas Church of England High School**

Aptitude Test application forms to be received in school by:	Monday 21st September 2009
Proposed date for Language Aptitude Test:	Saturday 3rd October 2009
Aptitude Test results to be received by:	Monday 12th October 2009
Closing Date for LEA application form:	Friday 16th October 2009
Supplementary Forms to be received in school by:	Friday 16th October 2009
Offer letters to be received by:	Monday 1st March 2010

Applications for admission to the school should be made on the common application form enclosed with the Local Authority's brochure, and also available online at [www.lancashire.gov.uk/e-admissions](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/e-admissions), between 3rd September 2009 and 16th October 2009. It is not normally possible to change the order of your preferences for schools after the closing date.

Applications may be made on either faith criteria or on language aptitude or on both. A supplementary form must be completed for all applications wishing to be considered on faith criteria. This supplementary form is available from the school, and should be returned to the school **by Friday 16th October 2009**.

Parents wishing their child to sit the Language Aptitude test must **also** complete a separate application form which is available from, and should be returned direct to, the school **by Monday 21st September 2009**.

Letters informing parents of whether or not their child has been allocated a place will be sent out by the Local Authority by Monday 1st March 2010. Parents of children not admitted will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative place by the Authority. The school is not able to offer places beyond its admission number (256).

### **Admission procedures**

The number of places available for admission to Year 7 in the year 2010 will be a maximum of 256. This arrangement follows consultation between the governing body, the Diocesan Board of Education, Local Authorities and other admissions authorities in the area. The governing body will not place any restrictions on admissions to Year 7 unless the number of children for whom admission is sought exceeds this number.

Under the statutory Code of Practice the Governing Body operates a system of equal preferences under which all preferences are considered equally and allocates places according to its policy. In the event that there are more applicants than places, the governing body will allocate places using the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

1. Children in public care.
2. Children with an aptitude for languages (to a maximum of 38 places).
3. The remaining places will be allocated using the following points system which reflects the fact that Ripley St Thomas is a Voluntary Aided Church of England School:

Points will be given:

- (a) (i) to children whose parents attend public acts of worship at a Church of England or Methodist Church (to a maximum of 10 points)
- (ii) to children of parents who attend public acts of worship at other Trinitarian denominational churches which are also members of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland or are included on a list of other Churches approved by the Governors (to a maximum of 9 points)
- (iii) to children who themselves attend public acts of worship\* at Church of England or other Trinitarian denominational churches which are also members of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland or are included on a list of other Churches approved by the Governors (to a maximum of 10 points).  
*\*This **does not** include attendance with school where this is part of the normal school day.*
- (iv) In addition, for the period of time that parents and children have worshipped with the regularity stated on the Supplementary Form (to a maximum of 5 points in the case of one of the parents and to a maximum of 5 points in the case of the child).

Information concerning Church attendance must be verified **by Friday 16th October 2009** through the submission of a Supplementary Form, which is available from the School and which must be completed by the parent together with the appropriate member of the clergy and counter-signed by the latter.

(b) to brothers and sisters of those children who are currently on the school roll and who will be continuing into the next academic year (2 points awarded). Note: "brother" or "sister" includes step, half, foster and adopted siblings living at the same address.

(c) to a child of a marriage where one parent has died and the surviving parent remains a widow or widower (6 points awarded). This reflects the original foundation of the school.

Notes:

- Children in Public Care refers to children who are in public care at the time when preferences are expressed and are still expected to be in public care when admitted to the school.
- Aptitude for languages will be assessed by means of a test; those with the greatest aptitude will be offered places. The test will take place on Saturday 3rd October 2009. Parents will be notified of the results by Monday 12th October 2009. The notification of results at this point does not constitute an offer of a place.
- Where two or more applicants achieve the same number of marks in the Language Aptitude test or the same number of points under criterion 3, then the distance between the Ordnance Survey address points for the school and the home measured in a straight line on a computer will be used as the final determining factor, nearer addresses having priority over more distant ones. This address point is within the body of the property and usually located at its centre.
- Offers of places under the equal preference system and will be sent to parents by Monday 1st March 2010 by the Local Authority.

### **Admissions information:**

Last year there were 733 applications (239 first preference, 335 second preference and 159 third preference) for 256 places. The Admissions Committee applied the criteria and offered places to:

0 children under criterion 1 : children in care

38 children under criterion 2: aptitude for languages

183 children under criterion 3: church involvement

35 children were offered a place based solely on distance from home to school. The last child to be offered a place on this basis lived at a distance of 11.89 miles.

### **Late applications for admission**

Where there are extenuating circumstances for an application being received after the last date for applications, and it is before the governors have established their list of pupils to be admitted, then it will be considered alongside all the others.

Otherwise, applications which are received after the last date will be considered after all the others, and placed on the waiting list in order according to the criteria.

### **Waiting list**

Where we have more applications than places, the admissions criteria will be used. Children who are not admitted will have their name placed on a waiting list. The names on this waiting list will be in the order resulting from the application of the admissions criteria. Since the date of application cannot be a criterion for the order of names on the waiting list, late applicants for the school will be slotted into the order according to the extent to which they meet the criteria. Thus it is possible for a child who moves into the area later to have a higher priority than one who has been on the waiting list for some time. If a place becomes available within the admission number, the child whose name is at the top of the list will be offered a place. This is not dependent on whether an appeal has been submitted.

This waiting list will operate for the autumn term only.

## **Address of pupil**

The address used on the school's admission form must be the current one at the time of application. If the address changes subsequently, the parents should notify the school. Where the parents live at different addresses, the current-at-the-time-of-application, normal address of the child will be the one used. This will normally be the one where the child wakes up for the majority of Monday to Friday mornings. Parents may be asked to show evidence of the claim that is being made for the address, e.g. identity cards of various sorts showing the child's address as the one claimed. Where there is dispute about the correct address to use, the governors reserve the right to make enquiries of any relevant third parties, e.g. the child's GP. For children of UK Service personnel and other Crown Servants returning to the area proof of the posting is all that is required.

## **Non-routine admissions**

It sometimes happens that a child needs to change school other than at the "normal" time; such admissions are known as non-routine admissions. Parents wishing their child to attend this school should arrange to visit the school. They will be provided with an application form once they have a definite local address. If there is a place in the appropriate year group, then the governors will arrange for the admission to take place. If there is no place, then the admissions committee will consider the application and information about how to appeal against the refusal will be provided. Appeals for children moving into the area will not be considered until there is evidence of a permanent address, e.g. exchange of contracts or tenancy agreement with rent book.

Please note that you cannot re-apply for a place at a school within the same school year unless there has been relevant, significant and material change in the family circumstances.

## **Appeals**

Where the governors are unable to offer a place because the school is over subscribed, parents have the right to appeal to an independent admission appeal panel, set up under the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, as amended by the Education Act, 2002. **Parents should notify the clerk to the governors at the school by 7th May, 2010.** Parents will have the opportunity to submit their case to the panel in writing and also to attend in order to present their case. You will normally receive 14 days' notice of the place and time of the hearing.

Appeals which are received after the deadline will be slotted into the schedule where this is possible. There is no guarantee that this will happen and late appeals may be heard after the stipulated date at a second round of hearings. The schedule is subject to change depending upon the availability of appeal panel members, clerks, venues and the number of appeals for each school (which will vary year on year).

## **Fraudulent applications**

Where the governing body discovers that a child has been awarded a place as the result of an intentionally misleading application from a parent (for example a false claim to residence or of involvement in a place of worship) which effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim, then the governing body is required to withdraw the offer of the place. The application will be considered afresh and a right of appeal offered if a place is refused.

## **LANGUAGE APTITUDE TEST**

The test will be administered in the school at 9.30am on Saturday 3rd October 2009.

Pupils who have entered for the test (by completing the application form and returning it to the school by Monday 21st September 2009) will need to be dropped off by parents between 8.45am and 9.20am. The test will run from 9.30am and will last approximately 1½ hours. Parents will be required to pick up their children between 11.00am and 11.30am.

The candidates will need to have with them a pen and pencil. The assessment will not test prior knowledge so no revision or additional preparation is needed.

Because of the nature of the test, question papers will be retained by the school.

Parents will be notified of the results of the test by Monday 12th October 2009. The notification of results at this point does not constitute an offer of a place.

### What form will the Language Aptitude Test take?

The test is designed to assess a pupil's **aptitude** for language learning, not his/her ability in languages. It therefore gives no advantage to pupils who might have prior knowledge of a foreign language, nor puts at a disadvantage pupils who do not have such prior knowledge.

The test really assesses a pupil's powers of logic, grammatical awareness and listening skills. Because it is about aptitude and not ability it is not a test for which anyone can sensibly prepare. The following examples of the type of question that pupils will face will, I hope, make this clear.

1. Most English nouns form their plural by adding an 's' e.g. book - books, cow - cows, but there are several other ways of forming the plural in English, e.g. child - children, mouse - mice, sheep - sheep.

In the language below there are several different ways of forming plurals of nouns, one of which is shown below. Read carefully through the table and fill in the missing word in the space opposite the arrow.

a girl	en flick	three girls	tre flickor
a pencil	en penna	three pencils	tre pennor
a picture	en tavla	three pictures	tre taylor
a lamp	en lampa	three lamps	



2. In the language below, 'the' is not a separate word but an ending added to the noun. Read through the examples in the table and try to fill in the missing word in the space opposite the arrow.

a book	en bok	the book	boken
a chair	en stol	the chair	stolen
a spoon	en sked	the spoon	skeden
a cat	en katt	the cat	



3. This passage is written in a foreign language. A number of words remain the same as, or quite similar to English, however, so the passage could be understood with a bit of careful thought. Read it carefully and answer the questions below.

Mery la scoola în Bucharest. Humele profesoarei est Damma Smith si mele favorite sunt Englez, Mátematica, Muzica, Technologia si Sportul. Îmi place tenisul si jucătorul de tennis favorit este Tim Henman. De asemenea, îmi place să mă unit la televigor la match do fotbal.

a) What is the name of the writer's teacher? \_\_\_\_\_

b) What sports does this person enjoy? \_\_\_\_\_

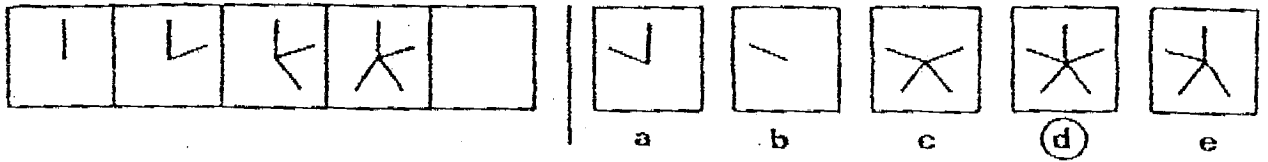
c) What lessons does this person like best? \_\_\_\_\_

d) Where does this person go to school? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Language learning requires an aptitude for following certain grammatical rules. Research shows that this aptitude is closely related to a person's mathematical reasoning skills. The following questions seek to test this aptitude.

To the left in each of the lines below there are five squares arranged in order. One of these squares has been left empty. Find which one of the five squares on the right should **take the place** of the empty square and draw a circle round the letter under it. An example has been done for you.

EXAMPLE



Now do the four practice questions below.

