



## CAMDEN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Frances Mary Buss Foundation

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### Admissions Arrangements for September 2018

The school admits 120 girls representing the full range of ability. Those considering applying to the school should attend an assessment session at the school which will place them in one of four ability bands. These non-competitive assessments are processed independently of the school, and take place in advance of application.

30 places are offered in each band.

Places will first be offered to applicants naming the school who have a statement of special educational needs issued by or with the support of Camden LA.

When the school is oversubscribed, places in each band will be offered in accordance with criteria 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (in that order).

#### 1. “Looked After<sup>1</sup>” and “Previously Looked After<sup>2</sup>” Children

Looked after children or children who were previously looked after but immediately afterwards became subject to an adoption, child arrangement, or special guardianship order.

#### 2. Siblings<sup>3</sup>

Applicants having a sibling living at the same address who is on the roll of the school at the time of admission.

In cases where more than one sibling in the same family tie for the last place, then all will be offered a place, even if this exceeds the planned admission number.

#### 3. Exceptional medical or social need

Applicants considered by the Governors to have an exceptional medical or social need that Camden School for Girls is specifically able to meet. Applications will only be considered on this basis if the case is made known to the school and supported by appropriate evidence at the time of the original application. (This will normally be in the form of a letter from a suitably qualified professional like a doctor, consultant or social worker.) As the school is a secular foundation, the religion of the applicant will not be considered a special need.

#### 4. Musical aptitude and / or ability

We are looking for students who show *exceptional* musical aptitude and / or ability.

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<sup>1</sup> In order to be given highest priority for admission, a child has to fall within the definition of 'looked after' in section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989. As this Act applies to England and Wales, a child has to be looked after by an English or Welsh local authority

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 1.7 of the School Admissions Code gives equal highest priority to 'previously looked after children'. Given the definition of a looked after child, a child will have to have been looked after by an English or Welsh local authority in order to be considered previously looked after. Under paragraph 1.7 of the Code, a child has to have been looked after immediately before they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order. In addition, in order to fall within the definition of a previously looked after child, an adopted child must have been adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 This Act did not come fully into force until December 2005; it is therefore not possible for a child to have been adopted under that Act prior to then

<sup>3</sup> Sibling is defined in these arrangements as: a sister or brother, a half sister or brother, an adopted sister or brother, a step- sister or brother or the child of the parents' partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit and at the same address as that sibling.

Three places are offered on the basis of musical aptitude.

Five places are offered on the basis of musical aptitude and ability.

All music applicants will sit a multiple choice listening aptitude test in music. This test is designed to be an objective measure of musical aptitude and does not require any prior training, practice or knowledge of music theory. The three highest scoring candidates will be informed that should they wish to apply for a place at the school, they will be offered a place on the basis of musical aptitude (if Camden School for Girls is matched by the secondary transfer system as a preference).

The remaining 50 highest scoring candidates in this listening test will be invited back for a performance audition. Students will be asked to perform on one or two instruments/voice for up to 5 minutes to further demonstrate their musical aptitude and ability for consideration for the other five places.

Music places are offered prior to places being offered under the distance criterion. Applicants must also sit the banding assessment. Waiting lists will be maintained of music candidates who are not at first successful. These lists will be in rank score order and any vacancies will be filled from those lists.

## **5. Distance**

Applicants whose permanent home is nearest to the school, measured in a straight line (as the crow flies) from the centre of the pedestrian gate in the perimeter fence on Sandall Road.

Please see our website for more information about distance and to find out how far away you live from the school.

### ***All applicants should please note the following:***

- (a) In the unlikely event of more than one child being tied for entry under the distance criterion, the place will be randomly allocated. This process will be independently verified.
- (b) Those applying under criteria 2, 3, 4, or 5 should note that priority in these criteria will be given to those who sit the banding assessment session. If at all possible, all applicants should sit the assessment session.
- (c) In the unlikely event that there are fewer than 28 applicants in any band, the unused places will be offered to applicants in the adjacent bands, taken equally from the bands above and below where this is possible.
- (d) The school will carefully verify the permanent home addresses of applicants.
- (e) A waiting list will be maintained in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed above from which vacancies will be filled.
- (f) The Governors reserve the right to demand the production of any documentary evidence to prove any claim. **The provision of false information will normally lead to the withdrawal of an offer pre-admission, or to the withdrawal of a place post-admission.** Neither will an offer be made if copies of the documents requested are not provided by the date on which the Admissions Committee of the Governors makes its decisions.