



Frequently Asked Admission Questions

What is your catchment area?

Thamesmead does not have a catchment area. Proximity to the school is our lowest oversubscription criterion. Places offered under Proximity are based on distance from the school to the home address, as measured by a straight line, using Surrey County Council's Find a School map, which is on their website. See our Admissions Arrangements 2021 on the school's website www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk under Admissions.

How do I apply?

You must complete your own local authority Application Form. The deadline for Surrey County Council is Saturday, 31st October 2020.

Do I have to complete a Year 7 Supplementary Form?

Only if you are applying under the Performing Arts (Drama & Music) criterion. The deadline for applications to be handed into Thamesmead, or emailed to p.moss@thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk, is 12 noon on Friday 9th October 2020. This form can be found on the school's website www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk under Admissions.

How do you decide who gets offered a place?

The school is told by Surrey Admissions of the names of the children whose parents named it as a preference school (including those from neighbouring boroughs). **The school is not told what order of preference it was named.** For 2020 admission we were named by 694 (this includes late applications), to which we had to apply our oversubscription admissions criteria to offer the 224 places we initially offered. The remaining 470 were put on a waiting list drawn up based on distance from the school to the home address. Surrey Admissions informed us of those children who were either successful in gaining admission to schools they had put as a higher preference or who chose to go to independent schools, so they were removed from our waiting list. For any places that were offered, which were declined by parents, we were able to fill the places from the waiting list.

How long do you keep the Year 7 waiting list for?

Until the end of December on the year of admission. After the 31st December parents must apply for in-year admission, via a school managed application form, which is also on the school's website under Admissions.

Do you have any feeder schools?

Yes: St Nicholas Church of England School and Saxon School – both in Shepperton.

Are students set by ability?

The majority of lessons are taught in mixed ability groups, with teachers ensuring the differing needs of the students are met. Students are set in Maths from Year 7.

How many students are there in a class?

On average 30 students per class. However, DT classes have a maximum of 20 students in a class to comply with Health and Safety regulations.

How much homework do Year 7 students receive?

No more than one piece a week per subject, which should take no longer than 30 minutes, and they have at least one week to complete.

*** What are the timings of the school day?**

This is our schedule before COVID:

8.25am	First Bell
8.30am	Registration and Tutor Period
8.45am	Lesson One
9.45am	Lesson Two
10.45am	Break
11.00am	Lesson Three
12.00pm	Lesson Four
1.00pm	Lunch
1.25pm	Lesson Five
2.25pm	Registration
2.30pm	End of School

This is our current schedule:

	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
Arrival and Hand Washing	8:20	8:20	8:20	8:50	8:50
KS3 Tutor time	8:30	8:30	8:30	X	X
P1-2	8:40	8:45	8:45	9:00	9:00
Break1	10:40	10:45	10:45	11:00	11:00
P3	11:05	11:05	11:05	11:20	11:20
Lunch	12:00	12:05	12:05	12:20	12:20
P4	12:45	12:45	12:45	13:00	13:00
P5	13:45	13:45	13:45	14:00	14:00
KS3: End of day KS4: Tutor time	14:45	14:45	14:45	15:00	15:00
KS4: End of day				15:15	15:15

*** Do you run Extra-curricular activities for students?**

Yes, we run a selection of after school clubs ranging from – Art, Book Club, Drama, Home Learning Club, Music, P.E., etc.

Do you provide lockers for students?

Yes, these are provided by ILS (Independent Locker Solutions Ltd), the cost of which is paid directly to them, which is currently £25 per year.

Which languages do you teach?

French and Spanish. Before children are admitted into Year 7 they can choose which language they would prefer to learn and we do our best to accommodate their choice.

What is your school uniform and where can it be purchased from?

Please check our Uniform Policy which is on the school website, under Policies. Our supplier of uniform is Shepperton Sports & Ski, High Street, Shepperton.

Which buses serve Thamesmead School?

Buses, timetable and other transport serving Thamesmead are listed on our website here

<https://www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk/transport-to-school/>

Fares are usually dependent on the place you board and you should contact the bus operator for details of these

* Due to COVID-19 restrictions, changes have had to be made to the timing of the school day and the after-school clubs.