



Devonport High School For Boys

Year 7 Admission Policy for the academic year 2026/27

The Board of Trustees of Devonport High School for Boys is the admission authority for Devonport High School for Boys. Devonport High School for Boys will comply with provisions within the School Admissions Code available at this link.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2

The admission arrangements outlined within this document apply to Devonport High School for Boys, which is an academy grammar school in Plymouth in the 2026/27 academic year. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Secondary and In-Year Co-ordinated schemes of admission available at

www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Published admission number

1. The admission number in Year 7 will be 180.

Admission arrangements

Admission to Devonport High School for Boys (DHSB) is on the basis of selection by reference to ability.

Devonport High School for Boys uses papers designed by an external assessment authority in English and Maths. Candidates will also take an internally set English paper (testing composition skills).

When the external paper scores have been standardised the Admission Panel (the Headteacher, Admissions Officer and a representative of the Trustees) will meet to discuss the results which will be placed in one of three categories.

A	Candidates who achieve a qualifying mark in the external papers equal to or higher than that of the 180th candidate and a qualifying mark in the DHSB English paper	The candidate has qualified and is eligible for consideration for a place at the school.
B	Candidates who achieve a qualifying mark in the external papers, lower than that of the 180th candidate, and a qualifying mark in the DHSB English paper	The candidate has qualified and is eligible for consideration for a place on the DHSB waiting list.
C	Candidates who do not achieve the qualifying mark in the external papers and/or do not achieve the qualifying mark in the DHSB English paper	The candidate has not qualified and so is ineligible to be considered for a place at this selective school.

All candidates will be listed and their names will be returned to the Plymouth Local Authority (LA). The LA will share this information with the Home LA of the candidate who will then allocate a place at the highest ranked school that the applicant is qualified for. On the first working day in March each Home LA will advise parents on the school place allocated.

Right of appeal

Parents of a candidate who has been unsuccessful have the right of an appeal to an independent admission appeal panel and DHSB has an agreement with Plymouth City Council to act on their behalf. Contact details can be found on the school website.

Outcome of tests

DHSB will inform parents of the outcome of the tests well before the closing date for secondary applications in order that parents will have time to make an informed choice of school. Candidates who are placed in Category A and B are not guaranteed a place at DHSB.

Before the application of the oversubscription criteria, children placed in Category A with a statement of special educational need or an Education, Health and Care Plan, which names the school, will be admitted.

Where the number of qualified applicants for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order of priority set out below:

Oversubscription criteria

- i. Looked after children and all children who were previously looked after who achieved a qualifying mark.
- ii. Children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
- iii. 174 candidates who achieve a qualifying mark in rank order.
- iv. Up to six students, who achieve a qualifying mark, who are registered and in receipt of the pupil premium at the date of testing. Evidence will be required at the time of allocation.
- v. Other candidates who achieve a qualifying mark in rank order.

To resolve any tied positions within this list the following criteria will be used (strictly in this order)

- i. Students who are registered and in receipt of the pupil or service premium at the date of testing. Evidence will be required at the time of allocation.
- ii. Children of a member of staff who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made or
Children of a member of staff who is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- iii. The mark for the DHSB English paper.
- iv. If there is still a tie then distance from DHSB will be used to favour those living nearer to the school. Priority will be determined on the basis of distance between home and DHSB measured by a straight line on the map using Plymouth City Council's electronic mapping system – the shorter the distance, the higher the priority. Measurement points will be from the spatial locator identified by the National Land and Property Gazetteer. The spatial locator is the address point based on a general internal point. Flats are therefore taken to be the same measurement point regardless of floor of location.
- v. Finally, a random number generator will be used. This will be supervised by a member of the Local Authority.

Late Registrations

(Registration for the admission exams received by DHSB from 1 September 2025 to 31 October 2025)

1. Arrangements will be made for the 11+ tests to be taken. Test results will only be included in the first allocation round if the admission authority is satisfied that the parent could not reasonably have known about the requirement and deadline for registration.

Late applications

(applications received by the LA from 1 November 2025 to 31 August 2026)

1. Parents should make an application to their Home LA.
2. Arrangements will be made for the 11+ test to be taken. Places will be allocated to those who qualify if there is a vacancy. If there are no vacancies then the candidate will be placed on the school waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

Waiting List

Category B candidates who apply for a place at the school will be eligible for a place on the waiting list. A candidate's place on the list will be in accordance with the oversubscription criteria only. The waiting list will be maintained until 31 July 2027. Please notify DHSB if you wish your child to be removed from the waiting list.

Notes

Admission out of the normal age group: Places will normally be offered in the year group according to the child's date of birth but a parent may submit an application for a year group other than the child's chronological year group. A decision will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent's views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. We will also take into account the views of the headteacher of the school(s) concerned. Parents must not assume that the decision of one school will transfer with the child to a different school as the decision rests with the individual admission authority. Where a place is refused in a different year group but a place is offered in the school, there will be no right of appeal.

A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order).

A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

The pupil premium is additional funding paid annually to schools under section 14 of the Education Act 2002 for the purposes of supporting the attainment of disadvantaged children.

The service premium is additional funding paid annually to schools under section 14 of the Education Act 2002 for the purposes of supporting the pastoral needs of the children of Armed Services personnel.