



ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Sherborne Qatar is modelled on its British mother school. There is a Preparatory School and a Senior School, and we have pupils from Pre-school to Upper Sixth (also referred to as Year 13). We teach an enhanced curriculum based on the National Curriculum of England and Wales. All members of the teaching staff are fully qualified and the overwhelming majority of teachers are from the United Kingdom.

Sherborne Qatar attracts pupils from the local and international communities. Creating the correct balance of pupils is a vital element of the admissions process as it enables both the Preparatory School and the Senior School to maintain the ethos of Sherborne Qatar as well as meeting the original vision for the schools.

The following criteria are taken into consideration when applications are received:

- Numbers already in that year group;
- academic ability;
- previous school assessments / reports;
- gender;
- nationality and mother tongue or first language.

In practice, this means that places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis, that an application can be unsuccessful even for an academically able child, or that availability of places can be dependent upon gender or nationality. There are more places available for British applicants than for other nationalities, and applications from Qatari families are given priority before other international families.



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It is a requirement for entry that children are able to communicate in English at a level that is appropriate to their age and development. Our ethos is to develop well-rounded citizens and develop their potential not only academically, but also by promoting our Values.

We cannot normally accept pupils with special needs, since we have neither the specialist facilities nor the expertise that they would need, although we do have staff to provide support for mild learning difficulties (such as dyslexia) and English as a second language.

In order to comply with the regulatory requirements of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, pupils are allocated places in the Preparatory or Senior School in the appropriate Year Group for their age.

Parents seeking a place for a child who has not previously been educated in a British curriculum school should refer to the Ministry equivalency chart, so that they understand which is the appropriate Year Group for their son or daughter.

Sherborne Qatar uses the following minimum ages for the year of entry:

Age		Year Group
3	on or before 31 st August	Pre-school
4	on or before 31 st August	Reception
5	on or before 31 st August	Year 1
6	on or before 31 st August	Year 2
7	on or before 31 st August	Year 3
8	on or before 31 st August	Year 4
9	on or before 31 st August	Year 5
10	on or before 31 st August	Year 6



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11	on or before 31 st August	Year 7
12	on or before 31 st August	Year 8
13	on or before 31 st August	Year 9
14	on or before 31 st August	Year 10
15	on or before 31 st August	Year 11
16	on or before 31 st August	Lower Sixth
17	on or before 31 st August	Upper Sixth

Admission to Sherborne Qatar Preparatory and Senior Schools is subject to passing an entrance assessment.

Headmasters' Waiting Lists

If a child is accepted and the relevant year group is full at that moment, he or she will be placed on the appropriate Headmaster's Waiting List. Places in the relevant School are then granted, as they become available, at the discretion of the Headmaster and based on criteria such as ability, gender or nationality, but not on a first come, first served basis.

We do not give a guaranteed place to children who have a brother or sister at the school, but we look favourably at all sibling applications that meet the academic and other standards required for entry into the School.

Leaving Sherborne Qatar

Written notice of parents' intention to withdraw a child (or a child wishing to leave the school) must be given to the appropriate Headmaster at least two weeks before the leaving date or the end of term. The school will require completion of a Leaving Form, so that the Finance Department can contact parents about any outstanding fees. Reports and transfer certificates will not be released until all outstanding fees have been settled.



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Appeals Process

Sherborne Qatar Preparatory and Senior Schools are fully established and much in demand. As a result, there will be very few spaces available each year. This will mean disappointment for the families of unsuccessful applicants. This does not always mean that a child has failed or is not up to the standards required by Sherborne, but simply that we do not have the spaces in the school to accept all of the children who would like to attend.

Parents can lodge an appeal if they are not satisfied with the decision reached. In the first instance, they must write to the relevant Headmaster by email, stating clearly the reasons for their appeal.

If parents continue to be dissatisfied, they can write to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Governors by email, via the Clerk to the Governors, stating clearly the reason for their appeal.

The Executive Committee will review the appeal as quickly as possible, but this might well take some weeks.

Sherborne Qatar reserves the right to exclude pupils whose behaviour is unacceptable or whose educational needs cannot be met.



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SHERBORNE QATAR PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Sherborne Qatar Preparatory School is a British Prep School in an international setting. It is a gently selective, co-educational day school set up in collaboration with the Supreme Education Council of Qatar under the 'Outstanding Schools Programme'. It provides a British education for children from Qatari and British families, as well as those from the wider international community.

Sherborne Qatar Preparatory School is divided into three separate sections: EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage), Key Stage 1 (Years 1 – 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3 – 6), with each section having slightly different entrance requirements which are set out below.

All prospective pupils must demonstrate that they have the ability, skills and knowledge to access the age-appropriate curriculum successfully. English is the language of communication throughout the school and in all academic lessons, except Arabic, French and Islamic Studies. Consequently, prospective pupils must demonstrate that they are sufficiently fluent in English (written and spoken) to be able to communicate effectively.

Sherborne Qatar is a mainstream school so we are unable to accept children with special needs. However, we are able to support a limited number of children with mild learning difficulties but it is important to note that this support is charged in addition to the normal termly fees (please see the fees policy for details).



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Admission into Pre-School (EYFS 1)

Parents should note that our Pre-School is not a nursery, but a class where the children will start to develop and practise the basic skills required in the earliest stages of their school lives. Therefore, it is desirable that all prospective pupils are currently attending an English-speaking Nursery in preparation for this next stage in their development.

Places are offered based on the evidence gained from a report, an assessment which takes place at Sherborne Qatar and a reference obtained from the nursery as we believe they are in a far better position to make a realistic assessment of the child. However, if a child is not attending an English-speaking Nursery it may be possible to arrange an assessment in school to establish if the child is ready for our Pre-school. We look at a variety of factors, including whether the child is happy to separate from his or her parent / carer, listens to and responds to instructions given in English, is growing in independence with respect to toileting, washing hands, eating and getting dressed. All Pre School children must be fully toilet trained before starting school and be growing in independence, such as washing their own hands, eating independently and getting dressed.

It is also important to state that, although we hope the children in the Pre-School will progress through Reception and on into Year 1, this is **not guaranteed**. All pupils who start their schooling in Pre-school (EYFS 1) will be required to demonstrate sufficient progress to ensure that they will be able to access the full British curriculum delivered in Key Stage 1 (Year 1). Parents of pupils who have not reached this level will be contacted in the second term of their Reception (EYFS 2) year. Pupils will also be expected to attend all day and every day that the school is in session and pupils with a poor attendance record will not be able to continue into Key Stage 1.



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Admission into Reception (EYFS 2)

Children applying for Reception must be attending an English-speaking Nursery or Pre-school to be considered for a place. They must be able to understand and communicate in English. This is because Reception is an all-day, structured school environment. All Reception children must be fully toilet trained before starting school and be growing in independence, such as washing their own hands, eating independently and getting dressed. They must also demonstrate early reading and writing skills. We will invite applicants to Reception for an informal assessment (between January and March) prior to the September start. Applicants after this date will be invited to come into school for an assessment if there is a place available.

Admission to Pre-Prep (Years 1 – 2)

Children applying for Years 1 and 2 are invited to spend a few hours in the school. They are welcomed and we ensure that they feel safe, so that their parent / carer can leave them and allow the classroom teacher to look after them. Children must have an acceptable level of and comprehension of English and be able to use it suitably. This is because the curriculum is taught in English. Children need to be able to understand instructions and be able to make their needs known to others. There will also be a number of short activities involving number recognition, practical mathematics and writing. If it is appropriate, children's reading levels will be assessed. We will also consider how children interact with others.

Admission to the Prep School (Years 3 – 6)

Children applying for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be invited to spend two hours in the school for an in class assessment. They will also be expected to take a computer-adaptive CAT 4 test in English, Mathematics and non-verbal skills. This test gives age-equivalent levels to determine strengths and weaknesses and is administered via a computer with headphones to ensure that the instructions and questions are read out loud. The assessment includes reading (word recognition,



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decoding and comprehension), general mathematics, mental arithmetic, and developed ability (picture vocabulary and non-verbal ability).

If a child is accepted, the information from the test is given to Form Teachers so that they can determine what the pupil already knows and what his or her potential might be, allowing them to put in place any interventions (G&T, EAL or Learning Support) that may be required.

Children whose mother tongue is Arabic may also be given an additional test to determine their level of speaking and understanding of Arabic.

Although we hope that all of our pupils will progress on to the Senior School, admission is **not guaranteed** but is dependent on the performance of the pupil over their time at the Prep School and their final level achieved in our regular assessments in English and Maths. We also consider a pupil's commitment to the school and involvement in extra-curricular activities and enrichment clubs.

Sherborne Qatar Preparatory School reserves the right to exclude pupils whose behaviour is unacceptable or whose educational needs cannot be met.

Please note that the results of assessment test are not published to applicants or to their parents and no correspondence about results can be entered into.



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SHERBORNE QATAR SENIOR SCHOOL

Admission to the Senior School (Year 7 – Upper Sixth)

The Senior School is a British, academically selective, co-educational day school in an international setting. Its education provision is based on and monitored by Sherborne School, Dorset.

We teach an enhanced version of the National Curriculum for England and Wales in Years 7 – 9. In Years 10 and 11, pupils are taught a full range of subjects leading to examinations at (I)GCSE level. In the Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13), pupils are taught a broad range of subjects leading to examinations at Advanced Level at the end of the Upper Sixth year. Pupils can undertake the Extended Project Qualification as an important part of their sixth form curriculum.

All of our UK teachers are specialists in their curriculum area and are well-qualified and trained. They are fully conversant with the requirements of the National Curriculum, (I)GCSE and A Level.

Admission to the Senior School is subject to passing an entrance assessment. Applicants are assessed using a computer-adaptive CAT 4 test which is designed to measure, as far as is possible, ability and aptitude for learning rather than achievement. The test is comprised of vocabulary, mathematics, non-verbal ability and a range of skills. All sections of the test contribute to an overall measure of ability that strongly suggests likely subsequent achievement. If a child is accepted, the test results are used to identify strengths and weaknesses, to inform teaching and learning and to assist in target setting and monitoring of performance.



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Only in exceptional cases will an applicant be admitted to Year 11 or the Upper Sixth, because (I)GCSE and A Level courses span two years and the requirements of various examination specifications do not always match. However, if subjects and examination specifications do align, we will look carefully at the application.

In addition to the assessments, we require a full set of supporting evidence from applicants, including the previous year's and the most recent school reports and a written reference from the current school. Reports and references must include information about attendance and behaviour.

Sherborne Qatar Senior School reserves the right to exclude pupils whose behaviour is unacceptable or whose educational needs cannot be met.

Please note that the results of assessment test are not published to applicants or to their parents and no correspondence about results can be entered into.

For enquiries about the availability of places or any other queries relating to admissions, please contact the Registrar (registrar@sherborneqatar.org).



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Application Process for Places at Sherborne Qatar

An application form can be downloaded from Sherborne Qatar website under Admissions, Application Form. www.sherborneqatar.org

The form must be completed accurately and in full. All necessary documents must be submitted with the completed application form by email, to admissions@sherborneqatar.org. If the attachments are more than 5MB please send them in more than one email. We don't accept application forms by hand.

The following documents are required with the completed application form:

- The child's full school report;
- A copy of the child's passport and parent's passport (identification pages only);
- A copy of the child's Qatari ID and a copy of the parents' Qatari ID card;
- A copy of the child's immunisation record;
- A passport sized colour photograph;
- Pay application fees (QR560).

The following summarises the admissions process:

1. Parents submit the application form and all necessary documents via email (admissions@sherborneqatar.org), together with the non-refundable Application fee of QAR 560. This fee can be paid in cash, by card, by personal or company cheques, or by direct deposit into the School's bank. Cheques are to be made payable to Sherborne Qatar School.
2. The application is reviewed by the Headmaster and the Registrar will arrange the Assessment date.
3. The Registrar will contact parents with news of the results and, if applicable, of the availability of places.
4. An offer letter will be sent to parents. To accept and secure the place, parents must respond within one week, must pay the full registration fee and seat reservation fees and must sign the Fees Policy. The Finance Department will send an invoice for the first term's fees. The invoice must be settled, in full prior, to the child starting at Sherborne Qatar.

We accept the MOE voucher at Sherborne and if you need more information about the eligibility and the required document, please contact the Finance Department and they will be able to advise you.



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Age	Qatar Curriculum	Topic	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14	Year 15	Year 16	Year 17	Year 18	Year 19	Year 20
Academic Year																						
3-4		KG 1																				
4-5	Kindergarten	KG 2																				
5-6	Year 1	Grade 1																				
6-7	Year 2	Grade 2																				
7-8	Year 3	Grade 3																				
8-9	Year 4	Grade 4																				
9-10	Year 5	Grade 5																				
10-11	Year 6	Grade 6																				
11-12	Year 7	Grade 7																				
12-13	Year 8	Grade 8																				
13-14	Year 9	Grade 9																				
14-15	Year 10	Grade 10																				
15-16	Year 11	Grade 11																				
16-17	Year 12	Grade 12																				
17-18	Year 13	Grade 13																				
18-19	Year 14	Grade 14																				
Public Exams																						