



ADMISSION POLICY

General Provisions

The provisions of the admission policy are in accordance with the requirements of The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and all applicable legislation, including the stipulations of the South African Schools Act and the Western Cape Education Law.

1. No applicant will be refused admission to Westerford on grounds of race, religious belief, sexuality or financial circumstances.
2. Every effort will be made to ensure that the gender balance in each grade remains approximately equal.
3. Applicants must have an adequate command of English, the language of instruction at Westerford so as not to prejudice their academic progress.
4. For those applicants who receive an early acceptance from another school, but would prefer to come to Westerford, we will not grant early interviews or offer the applicant a position at Westerford prior to our formalised dates.
5. All applications for Grade 8 must be submitted by the last day of the 1st term of the year prior to admission. Late applications will be placed on a waiting list.

Selection Criteria

Where selection becomes necessary because the number of applicants exceeds the number of available places, the School Governing Body has resolved that the principal will have discretion to admit applicants, and selection shall be based on the criteria below. Understanding that even though all criteria may be met by an applicant this does not guarantee them automatic acceptance into Westerford.

1. Westerford strives to reflect the demographics of South Africa in our school body. We are committed to redressing the inequities of the past with regard to educational opportunities for all children in South Africa.
2. Westerford does not have a feeder primary school. We accept applicants from over 60 different primary schools. We strive for diversity in our pupil body and therefore our applicants should be well-rounded, show school or community involvement and bring a uniqueness (something different) to the school community.
3. Preference will be given to siblings of current Westerfordians, except where this is not in the best interests of the child. (This preference; however, does not supersede the need to ensure that our school demographics are representative of those of the country.)
4. Preference will be given to applicants with a record of academic potential and/or success in identified areas, particularly English and Mathematics. This preference will; however, take into account the primary school context of the applicant.
5. Preference will be given to applicants with a record of involvement, or who demonstrate an interest, in one or more of the cultural and sporting activities which form part of Westerford's co-curricular programme. Taking into account that there are primary schools that do not offer these kinds of opportunities.
6. The capacity of the school to provide an acceptable quality of education to the applicant has to be considered; this provision applies particularly to applicants with special needs.
7. The age of the applicant in terms of the national age policy.
8. At 180 pupils a grade is deemed to be 'full'.