

Plantsbrook School

'Be the best that you can be'



Additional
Information



Admissions

Plantsbrook is a comprehensive convertor Academy, taking in both boys and girls from the ages of 11 to 19. It adopts Birmingham's admissions criteria:

When there are more applications than places available at the school, the following criteria will be used to determine which children will be allocated places:

1. Looked After Children (in Public Care) who will be guaranteed a place at their nearest co-educational community school if it is not possible to meet any of their preferences.
2. Children with a brother or sister already at the school who will still be in attendance at the time the sibling enters the school.
3. Children who live nearest the school.

Within each of these categories, priority is given to those who live nearest the school, calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between home and school.

Admissions criteria for the Sixth Form are published in the Sixth Form prospectus.

School Times

Plantsbrook's day starts at 8.40 am and ends at 3.15 pm, with lunch from 1.20 pm to 2.15 pm.

School Holidays 2015/2016

The holidays for the academic year 2015/2016, together with five training days are available on the School website and are published

in our fortnightly newsletter. **It is the Governors' policy not to authorise absences for holidays during term time.**

Religious Education & Collective Worship

Religious Education, in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus of the Birmingham Authority, is available to all students throughout their school life. This takes the form of timetabled lessons at Key Stage 3. At Key Stage 4 the students follow a Religious Beliefs and Values programme of study. At the Post 16 level Religious Education is incorporated into the General Studies Programme which is available to all students.

Collective Worship, which is wholly, mainly or broadly of a Christian

character, takes place on a daily basis. On two days of the week, this takes the form of an assembly with a theme commensurate with the requirements of legislation. The other three days follow a more general programme with particular reference to Year activities. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and Collective Worship. Alternative arrangements are made for students who, for religious reasons, are unable to take part in Religious Education and Collective Worship.

Health Education

Health Education is delivered mainly through the Personal Social and Health Education programme. The work is co-ordinated and delivered through a variety of subjects and courses. These are mainly Tutorial, Think!, Science, English, Physical Education, Mathematics, Food Technology and Religious Beliefs

and Values. Health Education includes Sex Education for which the school has a policy statement, available for inspection at the school and on the school website. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from Sex Education.

Healthy Eating

We are keen to support Government initiatives to encourage students to lead a healthy lifestyle. Your child, on average, will spend a quarter of his/her waking life at school and we recognise that moving to secondary school is a big step. Poor diet is a major contributor to lack of concentration, dehydration and negative behaviour.

We would therefore encourage you to make sure that your child has breakfast each morning and brings a bottle of water to school.

It may take your child a little time to adjust to the later lunchtime, but our experience is that the majority of students quickly adapt.

Child Protection

As part of our duty of care, the well being of children is all-important. We have a legal requirement to contact Social Services if we have a concern. We look for your

support in helping us ensure the safety of our children and we will always work closely with you for their benefit.

Contact with Parents

The progress of each student is carefully monitored by Form Tutors and feedback is given to parents at formal Parents' Evenings. Detailed written reports are sent annually with briefer progress reports at other times. In addition to these

formal procedures, staff are encouraged to discuss the work of each student with the appropriate Form Tutor and Achievement Co-ordinator as necessary, following which it may be thought desirable to consult further with parents.

Charging for School Activities

Charges will be made for any activity which takes place outside school hours unless it forms part of the syllabus of an examination prescribed by the Secretary of State, or is a requirement in connection with the National Curriculum.

Charges will also be made for the board and lodging element of any activity, even if that activity is deemed to take place mainly within school hours. Usually no charges will be made for materials to be used in the course of lessons or for the cost of transport in connection with an activity that takes place in school hours and arises out of the curriculum. The school will require parents to meet the cost of losses or damage where these are the result of a student's behaviour. For all activities where charges may not be made, voluntary contributions will

be invited from parents. Students will not be prevented from taking part in the activity if parents do not make a voluntary contribution, but if the activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions, the school reserves the right to cancel the activity. A procedure for the remission of charges is in operation. The school reserves the right to recover entry fees for public examinations if a candidate fails to meet the requirements of the examination.

School will provide a copy of a student's school record upon written request from the parent/guardian. Copies of such documentation will be provided within 15 school days of such written request. A charge will be made for photocopying prior to despatch of documents.

Public Examinations

All students have the opportunity to work towards public examinations at the end of Year 11. Currently students are entered for GCSE, BTEC using AQA, OCR, Edexcel and WJEC. Post-16 students can expect to be entered for GCE AS and A2 level examinations. Other students will take BTEC or additional GCSE examinations at the end of the first year in the Sixth Form. The decision to enter

students for public examinations rests with the school which will also meet the cost of fees for the first time of sitting. The school will also take decisions about the date of entry to the examination as appropriate to each candidate. Requests to re-take a public examination may be made and the school will consider each request on merit.

Community Development

At Plantsbrook School we are committed to developing close and mutually rewarding links with our local community in order to enhance and enrich the education we provide for our students.

Our goals are:

- to develop the school's use of the community in the curriculum.
- to promote effective communication and closer relationships between home and school, teachers and parents.
- to raise and maintain the profile of the school within the local area.

School Uniform

Uniform is part of the culture of Plantsbrook School. The wearing of a school uniform lessens the appearance of disadvantage and creates the right working atmosphere for the school. It is also a preparation for life after school as a uniform is a requirement of many employers. Plantsbrook uniform is easily obtainable from most chain stores.

BOYS

- Black blazer complete with badge
- White shirt
- Black or dark grey trousers
- 'Clip-on' School tie
- Black 'V' necked pullover (optional school badge)
- Black school shoes (**not trainers or canvas shoes**)

GIRLS

- Black blazer complete with badge
- White shirt/blouse with buttoned collar
- Black or dark grey skirt or trousers (tailored, not 'fashion')
- 'Clip-on' School tie
- Black 'V' necked pullover (optional school badge)
- Black school shoes (**not trainers or canvas shoes**)

- Plain tights or white socks
- Both boys' and girls' uniform can be purchased from most chain stores and multiple shops, including Asda, British Home Stores and Marks and Spencer.

BOYS' PE KIT

- White/black/red detailed polo shirt embroidered with school emblem (compulsory)
- Black shorts with red/white embroidered detail (compulsory)
- Black/red football/rugby reversible top embroidered with school emblem (compulsory)
- Embroidered hooded sweatshirt (optional)
- Black tracksuit bottoms (optional)
- Quarter zip training top (optional)
- White sports socks (compulsory)
- Football/rugby socks - black & red (compulsory)
- Trainers (must have non-marking sole)
- Football boots and shin pads (compulsory)
- Gum shield (optional)

GIRLS' PE KIT

- White/black/red detailed polo shirt embroidered with school emblem (compulsory)
- Black shorts or skirt with white/red embroidered detail (compulsory)
- Embroidered hooded sweatshirt (compulsory)
- Black/red T-Shirt (optional)
- Black/red stripe sports leggings (optional)
- Black tracksuit bottoms (optional)
- Quarter zip training top (optional)
- White sports socks (compulsory)
- Football/rugby socks - black & red (compulsory)
- Trainers (must have non-marking sole)
- Football boots (optional)
- Shin guards (compulsory)

PE Kit is available to purchase from Clive Marks and The Uniform Hub or will be available to order on the Open Evening. PE kit can also be personalised with your child's name at a small additional cost. Again, please see Clive Marks and The Uniform Hub for further details.

Please ensure all uniform is named.

The only jewellery we allow is one pair of small stud earrings and one signet ring.

Careers Guidance & Education

Careers Education and Guidance is provided through a comprehensive programme delivered through careers lessons, industry days, work experience in the Sixth Form, individual careers interviews, visiting speakers and group sessions. To assist with the delivery of the programme, the school calls upon the expertise of a recognised external careers organisation. A Careers Advisor from the external company visits

school regularly providing impartial careers guidance through individual interviews and group sessions. There is also a Sutton Consortium Careers Information Advice and Guidance evening to support Years 8 to 13.

NB. The career destinations for 2014 are shown on the final page.

Policy Documents & Regulations

All parents joining the school at whatever stage of education receive a copy of this prospectus. Copies of policies that the school

must keep by statute are available for inspection at the School. Policies are also available on the School website.

Arrangements for Making Complaints

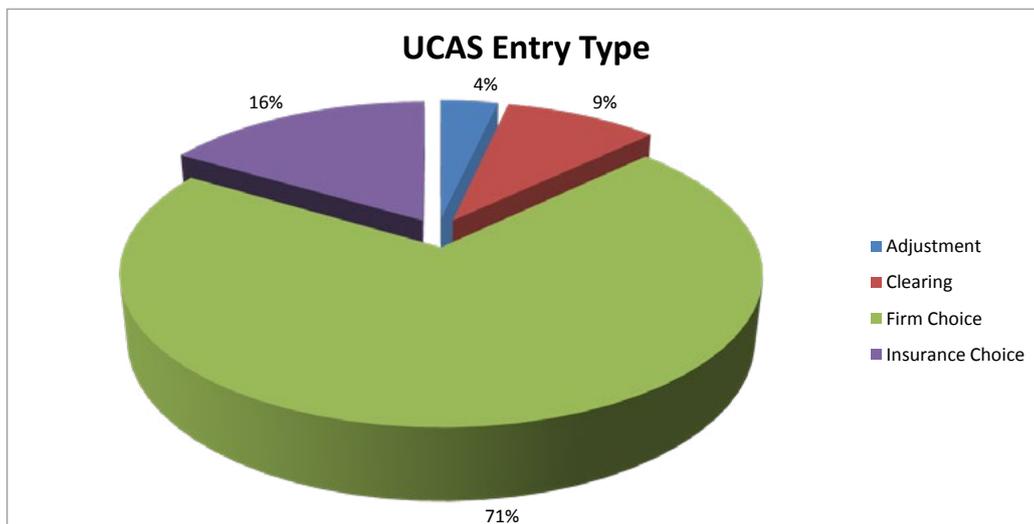
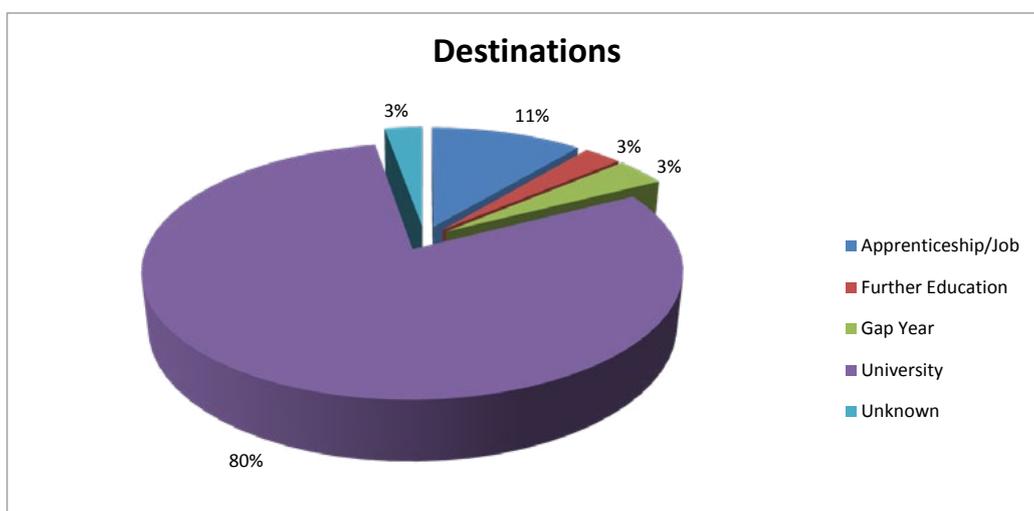
We sincerely hope that your child's life in Plantsbrook will be trouble free. While we endeavour always to achieve high standards, like any large organisation, we do from time to time make mistakes. Should you feel you have cause to complain, then there are two levels

at which a complaint may be made. These are directly to the Headteacher or staff, or a formal complaint to the Governing Body. In the first instance it is hoped that parents will raise any complaints with the School. Further guidance is available at the School and on the School website.

Absence 2014/2015

Total number of students on roll of compulsory school age	1050
Percentage of pupil sessions missed through unauthorised absence	0.18%
Percentage of pupil sessions missed through authorised absence	4.03%
Overall attendance	95.79%

Plantsbrook Destination Statistics 2014 for Year 13



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