



Haberdashers'
ADAMS
a grammar school with state boarding

Thank you for visiting Haberdashers' Adams;
we hope you enjoyed your visit.

If you wish to keep up to date with all our news, please follow us:

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If you have any questions about joining Haberdashers' Adams,
please contact our Registrar:

Tel: (01952) 953813 or email: registrar@adamsgs.uk

Full details of the school's admissions policy and procedures

are available on the school's website:

www.adamsgs.uk/join-us-year-7



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Year 7 Entry 2025



Admissions for Year 7 Entry 2025

One of our stated aims is to provide a grammar school education to pupils who come within the top quartile of the population academically. As a state school, tuition is free to all pupils and parents have the right to apply to Haberdashers' Adams irrespective of their address in the United Kingdom. However, please see our oversubscription criteria which is summarised within this booklet and detailed in our Admissions Policy on our school website.

Year 7 Entry (11+)

There are 135 day places available for Year 7 entry and 15 boarding places.

Boarding offers many benefits and state boarding provides those benefits at a far more affordable alternative to the independent sector because there are no day fees to worry about. As a selective grammar school, day and boarding entry is based purely on results in the entrance test and where the number of successful applicants exceeds the number of available places, an oversubscription criteria is applied as mentioned above.

Becoming Fully Co-Ed

Adams went co-ed in the Sixth Form 30 years ago and the natural progression is to go fully co-ed. From September 2024 we are very excited to welcome our first cohort of Year 7 girls. Boys and girls will learn together, providing equal opportunities for all while recognising their different needs.

Entrance Test

We use an entrance test designed to measure academic ability. For entry to Year 7, the test consists of two multiple choice question papers. Each paper lasts one hour and has timed sections with questions covering numeracy, literacy and problem solving skills. Questions are in multiple choice format; no essay writing is required.

Each year the test content changes to ensure it remains fresh and engaging for the children who take it. We believe the test offers a fair assessment for all children, whatever their educational background. We are unable to recommend any commercially available resources that can be used for preparation but we believe that preparation for Key Stage 2 tests will provide suitable experience for tests of this duration (although the format and content will be different). We provide some familiarisation materials on the Join Us page (Year 7) of our website.

The entrance test for September 2025 entry will be held on 16th September 2024.

How to Apply

To apply for a place at Haberdashers' Adams (day or boarding) for September 2025 entry, you will need to complete the following two forms:

Entrance Test Registration Form - this is an online registration form which will be available on our website from 7th May to 28th June 2024. The form needs to be completed by parents of current Year 5 pupils and submitted to Haberdashers' Adams by the stated closing date. Please check our website and Admissions policy for the exact dates. Please note pupils with SEND have an earlier deadline of 14th June 2024.

Secondary School Preference Form - provided by your Local Authority (LA) in the autumn term of Year 6. This will need to be completed and returned directly to your LA by the date specified on the LA form. Please note this may vary between LAs. If your child attends an LA primary school, the application form will be sent directly to you. If your child attends an independent school, you must request an application form from your LA.

Oversubscription Criteria

Places are awarded on a merit basis according to results achieved in the entrance examination. Where the number of candidates who have achieved the required standard exceeds the number of places available, an oversubscription criteria will be applied. Full details of the criteria can be found in our Admissions Policy on our website.

Day Applicants

In summary, the following oversubscription criteria will be applied:

- A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
- Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium, including children of service families.
- Pupils who are on roll on the date of the Entrance Test at one of the designated primary schools listed in our Admissions Policy.
- Rank order according to the result of the Entrance Test (assuming the applicant has reached the required academic standard).

How to Apply

Oversubscription Criteria cont.

Boarding Applicants *

In summary the following oversubscription criteria will be applied:

1. Looked after children (assuming appropriate financial arrangements are made through the relevant local authority).
2. Children of members of the UK Armed Forces who qualify for Ministry of Defence financial assistance with the cost of boarding school fees.
3. Children with a boarding need.
4. Rank order in the entrance tests.

Please note:

- * Boarding applicants of grammar school ability will also be invited to an interview to assess suitability for boarding.
- * Boarding applicants must be entitled to hold a full UK passport or be domiciled in the UK. All boarders whose families are resident overseas will need to have a UK based guardian.
- * Boarding places are not transferable to day places.

Boarding

Haberdashers' Adams is one of just a few state grammar schools in the UK to have a boarding facility. Around one hundred of our pupils are boarders (boys only) and boarding contributes much to the ethos of the school.

Boarding has advantages in a number of situations. Where parents have frequent changes of location with their work, in the UK or abroad, or where both parents work long and unpredictable hours, boarding ensures stability and continuity of education. It also allows more parents the opportunity of a first class education for their son.

Every effort is made to make the boarding house a secure and happy home, albeit with a large family! Boarding provides a structured environment while enabling the boys to have fun and to enjoy lots of activities with the opportunity to become fully involved in all the 'out of school' activities which are on offer at Haberdashers' Adams. They have the companionship of boys their own age, learn independence and tolerance.

Our boarders start their boarding life at Longford Hall, a beautiful Grade II* listed Georgian mansion set in one hundred acres of grounds, with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside. They are cared for by a boarding housemaster and his team of matrons and tutors who all work together to create a welcoming and homely environment.

Senior boarders (Years 11-13) continue their boarding life in Beaumaris Hall, our purpose designed home metres from the entrance to the main school. Senior boarding aims to help pupils gain additional independence and is an ideal stepping stone between home life and university.

Flexible Boarding Arrangements

During term time boarding is open seven days a week, closing only for Exeat Weekends (one per half-term) when all boys return home to their parents or guardians. However, since boarding is flexible, boarders may also return home on any weekend, leaving after school on Friday and returning on Sunday evening or occasionally Monday morning. A range of weekend activities is organised for those who choose to stay.

Boarding Open events

Throughout the year we organise Boarding Open Events to give families who are considering our boarding option the chance to visit the two boarding houses when the boarders are in residence. Boarders themselves conduct tours and our two Heads of Boarding (Junior and Senior) are available to answer any questions you may have. We also offer Boarding Taster Weekends.

Boarding Fees

Since no charge is made for the education at Haberdashers' Adams, boarders pay only for the provision associated with boarding. This makes boarding an attractive option for many families. The current boarding fee for 2023-2024 is £4,619 per term and includes accommodation for seven nights a week during term-time (with the exception of one Exeat Weekend every half-term) and all meals, laundry, supervised prep and many activities.

More About Adams

Currently there are just over 1,000 pupils attending the school with over 370 of those in the Sixth Form.

Curriculum

In Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils study a programme which includes art, biology, chemistry, design technology, drama, English, French, German, geography, history, mathematics, music, physical education, physics and religious studies. They also have lessons in citizenship and personal, social and health education (PSHE) in all years. In Year 9 pupils complete the Higher Project Qualification. There is no streaming or setting (pupils have already been selected to come to Adams) other than in mathematics from Year 9.

In Years 10 and 11 pupils take ten subjects at GCSE and they also follow a course of non-exam citizenship, PSHE and core Physical Education. A core curriculum is followed by all pupils comprising English (language and literature), mathematics, three separate sciences (biology, chemistry, physics), a modern foreign language (French or German), a humanity (geography, history, religious studies), and a performance subject (art, drama, music or PE). Pupils also have a free choice of one further subject: this can be an additional humanity or foreign language, or business studies, design technology or computer science.

In the Sixth Form we welcome a minimum of 80 additional boys and girls from other schools to join our thriving Sixth Form. Our Sixth Form pupils all study three A-levels during the two years of Sixth Form plus an AS-level in the first year and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in the second year. All pupils also follow a curriculum enrichment programme. The A-level options are structured in such a way as to encourage students to consider a combination of subjects that fit their interest and aptitude.

Extra Curricular

Extra-curricular activities are also a very important part of school life with over 50 weekly clubs and societies to appeal to every interest, as well as activities allied to academic departments. While pupils may arrive with a firm idea about the activities they like doing, we will always encourage them to try something new so that they push themselves beyond their comfort zone. The Adams experience is all about pupils being able to both fulfil and exceed their potential

School Day

Morning school begins at 8.45am and runs until 12.40pm, including a 20 minute morning break. There is a one hour lunch break and the afternoon session runs from 1.40pm until 3.45pm. The school day is divided into ten 30 minute periods; pupils are taught in a mixture of single and double period lessons.

More About Adams

Homework

This is an integral part of learning at Adams and work is closely monitored. Challenging but realistic targets are set for academic achievement. Pupils use an online homework platform called *Satchel One* (Show My Homework). Parents can also monitor their child's homework via this facility where they can view set work, when it needs to be completed and when it has been completed. Pupils can expect regular homework which places increased emphasis on them taking ownership of their learning, progress and attainment as they advance through school.

School Meals

The school catering service offers well-balanced meals each day for boarders and lunch for day pupils in the week. There is a full cafeteria service with a wide choice of individually priced items including fresh fruit, a salad bar and vegetarian options. Payments are made by a cashless catering system using fingerprint recognition. Attached to the dining hall is a tuck shop which opens at break and lunchtimes and the Sixth Form Centre also has a bistro for our Sixth Formers.

Communication

Parents receive regular communication through our parent portal, *My Child At School*, including updates on progress, details of parent evenings and an annual school report. Regular newsletters and our parents' association (Adams PTA) provide further contact between school and home along with regular updates on the school's social media feeds. The school aims to work in close co-operation with parents and this partnership is reflected through the Home-School Agreement and the Parent Handbooks.

Religious Education

Religious Studies (RS) is part of the curriculum in Years 7, 8 and 9, which involves studying the major six world religions. Pupils also have the option to study RS at GCSE and A-level. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RS lessons and should consult the Headmaster if they wish to exercise this right.

Relationships and Sex Education

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is part of the extended curriculum for Years 7 to 13. It is covered by a mix of formal lessons, lectures and the integration of some aspects into science, religious studies and personal health and social education (PHSE), which has four broad themes: developing confidence; preparing young people to play an active role as citizens; developing a healthy, safer lifestyle; developing good relationships and respecting differences between people. We encourage students through education to develop skills and values within a moral framework and to manage their relationships within a responsible, healthy and happy lifestyle. Parents wishing their child to be excused from all or part of RSE should make a formal request to the Headmaster.

More About Adams

Special Educational Needs (SEND)

Haberdashers' Adams is a selective school but one which is inclusive within its remit. We take seriously the needs of our pupils and we recognise our duty to provide a suitable education for every pupil; we will always seek to work closely with parents and others to that end. There is a vast amount of expertise amongst the staff which is used to good effect. In the event of the school needing further help, this is provided by any one of a number of qualified individuals brought in by school. Our well-established tracking systems aid the process of support and the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and the Head of Learning Support meet regularly with parents and pupils. Our full SEND Policy is available on the policies page of our website.

Access

The school endorses the Accessibility Strategy published by the local borough of Telford & Wrekin. With regard to admission to the school, our criteria for selection apply to all applicants, including those with disabilities. Although the age and layout of the school make full accessibility impractical, all reasonable efforts are made to accommodate the needs of disabled pupils. We have an Accessibility Plan and Disability Scheme outlining measures we are taking to improve access for all pupils which can be found on our website.

Pupil Welfare

Adams is a caring community. We care about all our pupils, from the youngest to the most senior, and we care about developing 'the whole person.' The pupil welfare philosophy of knowing our pupils as individuals underpins the success of our school.

The pupil welfare system monitors the pastoral and academic progress of each pupil and is enriched and strengthened by an extensive extra-curricular programme. At the heart of pupil welfare lies our House system. All pupils, day pupils and boarders, belong to one of the five Houses: Darwin, Owen, S'adu, Talbot and Webb. Led by Heads of House and supported by our Deputy Heads of House, Form Tutors and senior pupils, the Houses support, encourage, challenge, guide and provide an important focus for learning, monitor progress and celebrate achievement. They engender team spirit, loyalty and friendly (though often fierce!) rivalry. Quite simply, the Houses represent the basis for every pupil's sense of belonging and well-being within the school. The full policy on pupil welfare is available on our website.

More About Adams

Careers Guidance

Our careers education is designed to help pupils develop a good understanding of themselves so we encourage students to start thinking about their career options early. Very few will have a clear idea in Key Stage 3 (11-14 years) of what path they wish to follow so research will be needed to ensure they pick the right subjects when choosing GCSEs and A-levels. During Year 10 all pupils have the opportunity to have a one-to-one interview with an independent careers advisor to help them understand some of the decisions they need to make and ensure they are aware of the resources available to support them. A range of staff (internal and external) are on hand to advise them and all Year 11 pupils (GCSE year) do work experience after their GCSE exams. This can help them to decide what kind of career will enthuse them in the years to come. Future careers are again a consideration for Sixth Form pupils and staff are always available to talk to pupils and their parents about the best options.

Employability skills can be just as important as exam results and the wide range of House events, clubs, societies and trips available at Adams help pupils to develop these. By combining these with a broad educational base, practical experience and access to the best information and advice, we can ensure our pupils are equipped to make informed decisions about their options. For the majority of our Sixth Formers, those options will involve a university degree, however an increasing number are also pursuing Apprenticeship and Degree Apprenticeship pathways. A full list of destinations is available on our website.

Code of Conduct for Pupils

Pupils and staff are committed to excellence both inside and outside the classroom alongside high personal standards. The aim of the Code is to establish a sense of trust and co-operation between staff and pupils and parents. The basis of the Code is that pupils show common sense, good manners and courtesy towards others and uphold the reputation of the school.

Discipline

High standards are expected but when work or conduct is considered unsatisfactory, a system of sanctions operates following a fair investigation procedure. This includes detentions and exclusions. Twenty-four hours notice is given to parents/guardians if detention is to take place out of school time.

More About Adams

Uniform

All Adams pupils wear a uniform and the school expects pupils to take pride in their appearance.

In Years 7-11 the uniform comprises a maroon blazer with crest, tie, white shirt, black jumper with school stripes, black trousers or skirt, grey or black socks, and black shoes.

Sixth Form Boys wear a navy blazer with crest, tie, white shirt, black V neck jumper, black trousers, black shoes.

Sixth Form Girls wear a navy blazer with crest, white shirt, black V neck jumper or cardigan, black skirt or black trousers, black shoes.

Charging Policy

Activities offered wholly or mainly during normal teaching time will be available to all pupils, regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost. Voluntary contributions through the Private School Fund are invited for some trips and visits which incur specific costs. Charges may be made for optional activities wholly or mainly out of school hours. Charges apply for individual or small group musical instrument tuition. The full charging policy is outlined in our Parents Handbook.

Policies

All of the school's policies are available for viewing on the school website and are reviewed regularly with all programmes monitored. The school receives regular inspections from Ofsted.

Transport

Public bus services operated by Arriva to Newport are available from Shrewsbury and Stafford. Limited places are also available on a school organised bus service from Telford, Wolverhampton and Market Drayton. However, these buses are popular and always run at full capacity so there is no guarantee that a place will be available. When seats are allocated on these buses the order of preference is:

- Existing Adams students.
- Adams students on the waiting list from the previous academic year/years.
- New entrants.

Further information about timetables, cost and payment is available on the school website:
www.adamsgs.uk/parents

Our House System

Central to pupil welfare at Haberdashers' Adams is our thriving (and at times tribal) House system. A young person's House (Darwin, Owen, Sa'adu, Talbot and Webb) quickly becomes a young person's family, and within that family they will receive support, encouragement, safety, discipline, opportunity, confidence, stability, a large degree of healthy competition and a sense of belonging that ensures all pupils are happy, safe and respected.

Throughout the year all pupils are encouraged to take part in numerous House activities from small clubs to big productions with everyone being encouraged to try new areas. If we were to say our House events are incredibly special moments in the school calendar we would still be selling them short. Some of our very big events, when the whole school community comes together to participate and support their Houses, are described below.

House Cross Country

The first big event of the school year is the annual House Cross Country in September. Held at Longford in the 100 acres of grounds of our junior boarding house, Longford Hall, this is a truly magnificent occasion which alone demonstrates perfectly the sense of community at Adams of which we are so proud. All 1,000+ pupils take part in the different age group races and when they are not running their own race, pupils are shouting words of encouragement to others in their House to put in those last gasps of effort in order to gain the vital House points.

A letter from one of our Year 7 parents captures the day beautifully:

"I have never before experienced such camaraderie and team spirit which, having served 27 years in the military, is no mean feat... not just House team spirit, of which the rivalry is indeed fierce, but whole School and individual performances were encouraged by all, with no single participant receiving any less encouragement from all attending." Year 7 parent

House Drama

The fierce but still friendly House rivalry continues in November when once again the five Houses contest throughout the day for the highly acclaimed Dixon Cup in the annual House Drama competition.

The five Houses compete in a variety of categories from public speaking and acting through to video production and dance. Over half of the school is actively involved with all of the planning and preparations for the different performances led by the pupils themselves. It is quite amazing to see how many pupils manage to fit on a stage at any one time and to witness the support and help that the senior pupils give to the younger pupils in their House.

"You have the freedom to choose whether to take part, but everyone wants to because you would be letting the House down if you didn't." Adams pupil

Our House System

House Music

Our House Music competition has grown to such an extent that the sports hall is now the only location big enough to accommodate the large number of performers and audience, with the hall transformed into a magnificent auditorium for the event.

All of the planning and preparation for the different performances are once again led by the pupils themselves, allowing them to develop their leadership skills as well as their musical abilities. Performances include solo instruments and vocal items, instrumental ensembles and choral classes as well as a Band category, all reflecting the diversity of the music that is performed at Adams. Entries often include pupils' own compositions and arrangements.

House Netball and Rugby Sevens

The annual House Netball and Rugby Sevens competition delivers a full day of sporting competitiveness. While Rugby Sevens is taking place at Longford Hall, the girls spend the morning in the sports hall battling it out for the House Netball crown before joining the rugby in the afternoon. With our PTA providing an assortment of refreshments for everyone throughout the day, including some truly incredible cake donations from parents, it really is a wonderful day enjoyed by the whole of our school community.

House Athletics and Swimming

The excitement of our House events continues through to the end of the summer term when once again pupils compete throughout the day in various sporting categories at our House Athletics competition to claim the House Athletics Cup. This is followed by an afternoon of further House rivalry when everyone gathers around the school's swimming pool for the last chance of the year to win another prestigious cup - House Swimming.

"The opportunities at Adams are limitless and if you throw yourself into it as much as humanly possible your time here will be exceptional." Adams Sixth Former

Our Examination Results

Providing an outstanding learning experience is at the heart of everything we do and we are proud of the excellent results our pupils achieve.

We believe the success of a school cannot be measured by results alone, however our recent results can be viewed below and the destinations of our recent leavers can be found on our website. Over 80% of pupils secure their first choice university. On average, 8 pupils secure places at Oxbridge and 14 pupils go on to study medicine, dentistry and veterinary degrees.

A-Level Results 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Pass rate (A* - E grades)	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
% Grades A* - A	41%	51%	53%	53%	47%
% Grades A* - B	61%	74%	78%	77%	75%

GCSE Results 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Grades 9 - 5 (A*-C)	95%	96%	95%	97%	98%
Grades 9 - 8 (A*)	42%	54%	48%	47%	40%
Grades 9 - 7 (A*-A)	64%	73%	70%	70%	60%

Key Dates

September 2025 Entry (age 11+)

7th May 2024	Registration for Entrance Test Opens Online registration form on our website.
14th June 2024	Closing Date for SEND Registration
28th June 2024	Closing Date for Entrance Test Registration
16th September 2024	Entrance Test For September 2025 entry (age 11+).
Mid October 2023	Test Outcome Letter sent to parents.
31st October 2023	Local Authority Application Deadline For submitting secondary education preference form to your local education authority.
1st March 2024	Confirmation of School Allocation Local authority will inform families.

For more information please contact our Registrar
Email: registrar@adamsgs.uk Tel: (01952) 953813

Notes