

Thank you for your interest in enrolling your child in UWCSEA. This 'Q&A' will help you with your application.

How far in advance should I apply?

We operate an annual application cycle with applications opening one year ahead of each new academic year. It is not a first-come first-served system, all applicants who meet our entrance criteria (and so are 'eligible') are placed in the application 'pool' to be considered for available places in the upcoming academic year.

You can sign up on our 'register of interest' if you are interested in applying in future, and we will email you when applications open.

What makes an applicant 'eligible'?

We seek to enrol students who are committed to our mission and core values and who will embrace the opportunities offered by the College. Applicants should demonstrate that they possess the skills to enable them to thrive in our programme. Specific areas that we take into consideration include the applicants' approach to learning, their academic profile, English language proficiency and any individual learning needs.

How important is 'approach to learning'?

A positive approach to learning, including effort and behaviour, is crucial. We also look for active involvement in a range of activities including the arts, service, sports, outdoor pursuits and student leadership.

How important is 'academic attainment'?

We do not rank applications according to academic results. Applicants must have school reports that indicate they can progress well and with confidence in the curriculum.

What are your requirements for English language proficiency?

K1 to Grade 5: applicants must have a level of English (reading, writing and speaking) that allows them to thrive in the mainstream curriculum.

Dover Campus applicants to Grade 1 and above may be admitted to the English as an Additional Language (EAL) programme. This programme is an additional cost.

Grades 6–9: applicants may be admitted to our EAL programme if they demonstrate the required level of English *and* proficiency in their first language (mother tongue).

Grade 10 FIB and IB Diploma: applicants whose first language is not English are tested.

What are the College's residency requirements?

All students must reside with at least one parent who is also resident in Singapore and is present for at least 90% of each

term. Students applying to Grade 8 and above can apply to join as boarders.

Do you accept students with individual learning needs?

We review applications on a case-by-case basis. If your child has benefitted from individual or small group support in the past, please contact Admissions *before* applying.

Do you accept applications from Singapore citizens?

In line with Singapore Government regulations that require Singaporean Citizens to attend MOE schools, we accept applications from Singaporean Citizens only in limited circumstances. Please contact Admissions *before* submitting an application if your child is a Singapore Citizen, or may become a citizen during the application cycle.

Do you admit students above (or below) your age-grade boundaries?

K1 to Grade 8: placement is strictly according to age by 1 September of the year of entry (refer to the table overleaf). Students are not admitted into a higher grade, but it is possible to request placement in a grade below if that follows the educational history of your child.

Grade 9, 10 FIB and the IB Diploma: 'out-of-grade placements' are considered on a case-by-case basis.

If there are more eligible applications than there are places, how do you allocate places?

In line with our commitment to diversity, places are allocated according to a range of factors which includes personality, interests, proactive involvement in school and community life as well as gender, age and the extent to which the applicant's experience and background adds to the diversity of the College.

Other factors include whether the applicant has a sibling currently enrolled at the same campus and whether or not they, or their parents, previously attended UWCSEA.

Do you test and interview all applicants?

K1 to Grade 8: interviews and assessments may be required if full reports are not available or are unclear.

Grade 9: all eligible applicants are interviewed and are asked to participate in a group discussion forum.

Grade 10 FIB and 11 IB Diploma: all eligible applicants have assessments in mathematics and, their second language if applicable. The test results are used as a guide for subject selection: they do not play a role in the process of allocating places to eligible candidates. Applicants are also interviewed and asked to participate in a group discussion forum.

IB Diploma: applicants requesting Design Technology must complete an additional questionnaire and those requesting Art or Music must provide evidence of their performance standard, generally via a CD or DVD portfolio.

All eligible **boarding** applicants are also interviewed.

When do these assessments take place?

K1 to Grade 8: we contact applicants requiring assessment to arrange a convenient time.

Grade 9, 10 FIB and 11 IB Diploma: assessment days are held at the College over a number of days in late January to mid-March; if required they can be held during the College's overseas visits.

Is there anything else I need to consider?

- transfers between campuses are not available once a place has been accepted at one campus
- K2 places will open on East Campus only; please contact Admissions to place your child's name on a Register of Interest if you would like us to contact you should availability exceed expectations on Dover Campus
- if your child is applying to join Grade 6 or above, they will need to complete a handwritten Student Statement. The Student Statement form can be downloaded from the Brochure Downloads page on our website. It must be completed by hand by the student and then scanned and uploaded as part of the application

How do I apply?

All applications need to be submitted via our online system. A user guide is available on the website, together with the link to the application system.

When should I apply?

Applications open 12 months ahead of each new academic year. The date of application is not relevant in the selection process, and nor is there a deadline. However, keep in mind the following timings:

K1–Grade 8: places are offered in November, February and April, and so applications need to be submitted in advance of these months. Applications made later are considered for places that may arise as follows:

- K1–Grade 8: up to the start of Term 2 in January

Grade 9, 10 FIB and 11 IB Diploma and all boarding applications should be submitted by January, as the assessment days take place in February and March. Places are offered in March. Applications after this time are accepted only if there are places available.

Is the process different if I have applied before?

If you are re-applying, you can update your previous application rather than having to complete the whole form again. A new application fee will be payable.

Need help? Please contact Admissions

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Age-grade boundaries

Academic year: August 2019–June 2020		
UWCSEA schools	UWCSEA grade	Age of August 2019 applicants
Infant School	Kindergarten 1	4–5 years (born 1 September 2014 – 31 August 2015)
	Kindergarten 2 (East only)	5–6 years (born 1 September 2013 – 31 August 2014)
	Grade 1	6–7 years (born 1 September 2012 – 31 August 2013)
Junior School	Grade 2	7–8 years (born 1 September 2011 – 31 August 2012)
	Grade 3	8–9 years (born 1 September 2010 – 31 August 2011)
	Grade 4	9–10 years (born 1 September 2009 – 31 August 2010)
	Grade 5	10–11 years (born 1 September 2008 – 31 August 2009)
Middle School	Grade 6	11–12 years (born 1 September 2007 – 31 August 2008)
	Grade 7	12–13 years (born 1 September 2006 – 31 August 2007)
	Grade 8	13–14 years (born 1 September 2005 – 31 August 2006)
High School	Grade 9 (I)GCSE	14–15 years (born 1 September 2004 – 31 August 2005)
	Grade 10* Foundation IB	15–16 years (born 1 September 2003 – 31 August 2004)
	Grade 11 IB Diploma	16–17 years (born 1 September 2002 – 31 August 2003)
	Grade 12* (no direct entry)	17–18 years (born 1 September 2001 – 31 August 2002)

* There is no entry into IGCSE Grade 10 or IB Diploma Grade 12. These are the second of two-year examination courses. For appropriately qualified students, entry into the Grade 10 Foundation IB course is available