

## EAL Admissions Guidelines

Studying at St Swithun's is a fantastic opportunity for international students to develop their language abilities alongside their academic studies. However, in order to be sure that they will lead a successful and rewarding school life, candidates whose first language is not English, or who have had considerable exposure to another language, need to demonstrate that they have appropriate knowledge and skills. This is determined in two ways:

### 1. St Swithun's EAL assessment

Applicants must complete a St Swithun's EAL assessment paper in order to provide the school with evidence of their abilities in relation to the types of language that they might be expected to use in class. This tests their range of vocabulary and level of grammatical control. For KS4 and KS5 entry, it also includes a subject specific exercise.

### 2. International English Certification

Students are also asked to take an international exam so that we can be sure that all of their skills are at a suitable level to thrive both in and out of the classroom. UKISET alone is insufficient as it does not provide evidence of speaking abilities. The exams and minimum levels for each key stage are as follows:

IELTS						
Entry Point	Module	Overall	Minimum Scores			
			L	R	W	S
L4, U4, L5	General Training	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
M5	Academic	6	6	6	5.5	6
L6	Academic	6.5	7	7	6	6.5

Cambridge Main Suite						
Entry Point	Module	Overall	Minimum Scores			
			L	R/UoE	W	S
L4, U4, L5	First or First for Schools	C	160	160	160	160
M5	First or First for Schools	B	170	170	160	170
L6	First	A	185	185	170	180

*Note: Any passing grade at Advanced or Proficiency would be accepted.*

TOEFL						
Entry Point	Module	Overall	Minimum Scores			
			L	R	W	S
L4, U4, L5	TOEFL Junior	850	290	280	280 <sup>1</sup>	14 <sup>2</sup>
	TOEFL Essentials	8	8	8	8	8
	TOEFL iBT	72	17	18	17	20
M5	TOEFL iBT	80	19	20	17	22
L6	TOEFL iBT	90	24	24	20	23

<sup>1</sup> This is the Language Form and Meaning section.

<sup>2</sup> Note that this is a separate endorsement not included in the overall score.

L4 also known as Year 7

U4 also known as Year 8

L5 also known as Year 9

M5 also known as Year 10

L6 also known as Year 12