



ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 7 IN SEPTEMBER 2025/26

Shenfield High School is an 11–18 co-educational comprehensive School, admitting children in one main admissions Year Group, Year 7. The Published Admission Number (PAN) in September 2025 will be 240.

Applications must be made in accordance with the co-ordinated admissions scheme published by your home Local Authority. For children resident in Essex, this is published in the Secondary Education in Essex booklet.

Criteria to be used in the event of over-subscription for entry

Where applications for admission exceed the number intended to admit, places will be offered strictly in order according to the following criteria:

PRIORITY A

A minimum of 216 places will be allocated in the following priority order:

1. Looked after Children (LAC), Previously Looked after Children (PLAC) and Children Previously Looked after from outside England (IPLAC). 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. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
2. Where a child has a sibling currently attending the School and living in the same household*.
3. The school may give priority to children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances: a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time the application for admission to the school is made, and /or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Children living** within the existing priority admissions area for the School and the five Parishes of Blackmore, Doddinghurst, Kelvedon Hatch, Navestock and Stondon Massey, (as defined by OS map) or in parts of Nine Ashes, Marsden Ash, High Ongar and Chipping Ongar (map available on request).***

5. Applicants who, at the time of application, are registered in Year 6 in one of the following Primary Schools: Bentley St Paul's CE (V/A) Primary School, Blackmore Primary School, Bulphan CE (V/C) Primary School, Chipping Ongar Primary School, Doddinghurst CE (V/C) Junior School, Dr Walker's CE (V/C) Primary School, High Ongar Primary School, Hogarth Primary School, Holly Trees Primary School, Hutton All Saints CE Primary School, Ingrave Johnstone CE Primary School, Kelvedon Hatch Community Primary School, Larchwood Primary School, Long Ridings Primary, Mountnessing Primary School, Moreton CE (V/A) Primary School, Ongar Primary School, Shenfield St Mary's, St. Helen's Catholic Junior School, St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School, St Peter's CE (V/A) Primary School South Weald, St Thomas of Canterbury CE (V/A) Junior School, Stapleford Abbots Primary Academy, Warley Primary School, West Horndon Primary School, Willowbrook Primary School.
6. Proximity of the child's home to the school by straight line distance, with those living nearer being accorded the higher priority. Straight line distances are calculated by the Local Authority, as defined in the Secondary Education in Essex booklet.

PRIORITY B (Aptitude)

Up to 10% of the PAN (24 places) will be allocated on the following basis:

1. Children who demonstrate an aptitude for Sport or Performing Arts as demonstrated by the School's aptitude tests. The Sport Aptitude Assessment and Performing Arts Auditions will take place on a Saturday in early October. Information will be available on the school's website from the beginning of each academic year, or by application to the school's Admissions Officer. Where two students are of equal aptitude, the one living nearer to the school would gain preference. This will be determined as straight line distance as provided by the local authority. If there are insufficient children who have satisfied the entry requirement for a place based on aptitude then the places will be offered to other children under Priority A.

Notes:

*A sibling is defined as "each of two or more children, having one or both parents in common, and living in the same family unit in the same family household and address as the other children". The older child must be attending the School at the time of application and reasonably expected to still be at the School at the time the younger child is admitted.

**Living in the area shall mean "main place of permanent residence of the child and family both at the time of application and of admission and for the foreseeable future". The school reserves the right to seek proof of residence at the given address.

***The definitive map is available for inspection at the School.

Over-subscription. A waiting list will be held in the order of the admissions criteria. A waiting list will be kept until the end of the Autumn Term and thereafter by request.

Waiting lists are held for all year groups. In-year admissions are managed by the school and an application form should be requested from the school's Admissions Officer.

To be considered for a place under Priority B (Aptitude), the school's Supplementary Information Form must be completed and returned to the school (date to be published annually).

Applications, using the relevant common application form or online process, must be received by your home Local Authority by the National Closing Date. For children resident in Essex, the common application form and closing date are published in the Secondary Education in Essex booklet.

Admission to the Sixth Form

Students may be admitted to Shenfield High School's Sixth Form to study A Levels or other available Level 3 courses if the appropriate criteria for admission are met and subject to course and place availability. Sixth Form admission criteria are published annually on the school's website.