



## Consultation Notice

### Proposed changes to admission arrangements of St. Martin's School for the 2026 intake

**Consultation period: 10 December 2024 to 31 January 2025**

Discovery Educational Trust (the Trust) is the Admission Authority for St. Martin's School (the School).

A consultation on changes to the admission arrangements for the School, which commenced on 16 October and concludes on 11 December (the first consultation) remains valid.

The Trustees have considered that there are further proposed changes to the admission arrangements, that must be consulted upon in line with the requirements of the School Admissions Code. The Trustees consider that a second consultation is necessary to seek the views of all interested parties on those additional changes. These proposed additional changes are set out below.

The Trust has taken the decision to consult again on these additional changes to the admission arrangements because it has decided to introduce aptitude places for sport and music in order to identify pupils, who have the potential to excel in sports and music, regardless of prior experience. This will enable these pupils to contribute to the school's sports and music programmes and to excel in a highly aspirational educational environment.

No decision on the changes proposed, either in the previous consultation that is currently running (between 16 October and 11 December) or this second consultation, has been taken. Any decisions will be directly informed by the responses received during both consultations. The Trust Board encourages a wide range of responses from interested parties in order to make an informed decision on these proposals.

#### **Changes proposed:**

- The School is now proposing to add an additional oversubscription criterium to introduce up to 10% of places for the Year 7 intake, to be allocated to children demonstrating an aptitude in sport or music.
- Within the admission policy, proposed changes have been made to:
  - **Paragraph 4:** includes explanatory information on the proposed aptitude testing.
  - **Paragraph 5.e):** will add priority within the oversubscription criteria for children applying for a place in Year 7, who demonstrate an aptitude in sport or music.
  - **Paragraph 9:** The tie-breaker is amended to reflect that, should two or more siblings sit the aptitude test, but only one be allocated a place, the remaining siblings will not be admitted over the School's published admission number (PAN).

- The Trust has also produced a draft 'Request for Aptitude Testing Form'. This would be completed by parents wishing their children to be entered for aptitude testing.

Any comments or suggestions on the proposed changes can be submitted by email to the School Office via email address: [enquiries@st-martins.essex.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@st-martins.essex.sch.uk) or by post/hand delivery to the Admissions Manager, St. Martin's School, Hanging Hill Lane, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, CM13 2HG.

A full set of the draft admission arrangements is available on the School's website (<https://www.st-martins.essex.sch.uk/>) and a hard copy is available from the Admissions Manager, address details as above.