



Selsdon Primary School Parent / Carer

4th November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Consultation on changes to admissions criteria for entry to Riddlesdown Collegiate in September 2021

As you will know, Selsdon Primary School has been a key part of the admissions criteria for entry to Riddlesdown Collegiate for many years as a named feeder school. However, we are now finding that the growth in the popularity of the Collegiate means that very local children who do not attend one of the named feeder schools often have great difficulty in gaining a place; for the 328 places we have in current Year 7, we received almost 1500 applications, but only a very small number of these places were offered to children who live close to the Collegiate but who did not meet any of the other criteria. At the same time, we remain a partially selective school and so, whilst this accounts for a much smaller number, very local children are being further displaced by those being offered a place based on their score in the ability test.

Therefore, in order to give more local children a greater chance of being offered a place at the Collegiate, our admissions authority, the Board of Directors of *The Collegiate Trust*, has decided to consult on changes to our admissions criteria for entry in September 2021 (which would affect current Year 5 and below). **The consultation begins today and proposes the removal of feeder schools and the ability test from the admissions criteria, which would mean that pupils at Selsdon Primary would no longer be guaranteed a place at Riddlesdown Collegiate.**

I realise that this may cause anxiety amongst some families. For information, you may find it helpful to know that over the last 3 years approximately 25% of applicants from Selsdon Primary School would still have been offered a place at Riddlesdown Collegiate, even if the feeder school criterion had not applied, because of their proximity to the Collegiate or a sibling already in attendance.

You are now welcome to respond to the consultation by completing the questionnaire at <http://tctorg.uk/admission-criteria> which includes the opportunity to add your own comments. The consultation will end on 16th December 2019 and the Board of Directors will then review all responses before publishing any decisions about changes to the admissions criteria in February 2020.

Thank you for your engagement with this process

Yours sincerely

Mr S Dey
Principal