

Saturday Islamic School (SIS) usually only accepts new applications for pupils to start in September which is the beginning of the academic year. The school avoids mid-year admissions in order to avoid disruption to pupils' education and learning. More importantly, the school does not usually have spaces in classes once the academic year starts. However, the school may accept a mid-year application for exceptional circumstances. Pupils to SIS are admitted by selection. The decision of the headteacher is the final.

Applying for a place

Application forms are available from May for a place in September. The forms can be downloaded from the school's website, collected from the main reception of the East London Mosque, or be collected from one of the branches of SIS on Saturdays during school hours (9:30 AM to 3:00 PM). Please note that application forms are not normally available at any other times of the year.

The application form clearly states the age group for which application can be made depending on the places available at the school. Currently the school has the capacity to admit 150 pupils aged 6 to 7 years old in September. Children aged over 7 years old have little chance of obtaining a place as the classes are often full.

Parents/guardians of the child are invited to a short selection process with their child. The process involves an assessment of the child's reading and writing ability in English as well as their confidence in social skills. During the selection process parents are expected to provide the following documents:

- The child's birth certificate or valid passport
- The latest school report from the child's mainstream school

The school then decides on suitable applicants. The school usually receives twice as many applications for the places available and therefore cannot accommodate all the applicants. Unsuccessful applicants need to re-apply in the following year as the school does not operate a waiting list.

Admission criteria

The school uses the following admission criteria when offering places

1. children of the right age group for which places are available
2. children whose needs can be met by the school
3. children who live close to the school
4. children who have siblings (brothers and sisters) in the school

Appeal against a decision

Parents have a right to appeal against a decision if they feel that the admissions criteria have not been followed. The appeal will be reviewed by the headteacher or governors as appropriate. Appeal without specific grounds will not be responded to.

Age group and class sizes

SIS organises pupils in terms of age and ability. Older pupils are not usually placed with younger pupils as it affects the learning of both. Usually there are 30 pupils per class.

Contributions

Parents are expected to pay a contribution towards the education of their child. SIS works with a number of partner schools/organisations who contribute by making their facilities available at a nominal charge.

The yearly parent contribution per child is according to the age group:

Class 1 to Class 5 Yearly contribution £150

Class 6 to Class 8 Yearly contribution £180

There is an additional £20 for a starter pack which includes a school bag with all the necessary books when the child first starts SIS. The payment needs to be made at the beginning of the year in cash or by cheques payable to 'Saturday Islamic School'.

All parental contributions are non-refundable.
