
Admissions Policy and Procedure

Policy # 6.1

Approved: August 2016

Circulation: BMT

Reviewed: August 2019

Date for Review: August 2021

Understanding Admissions at UWCT

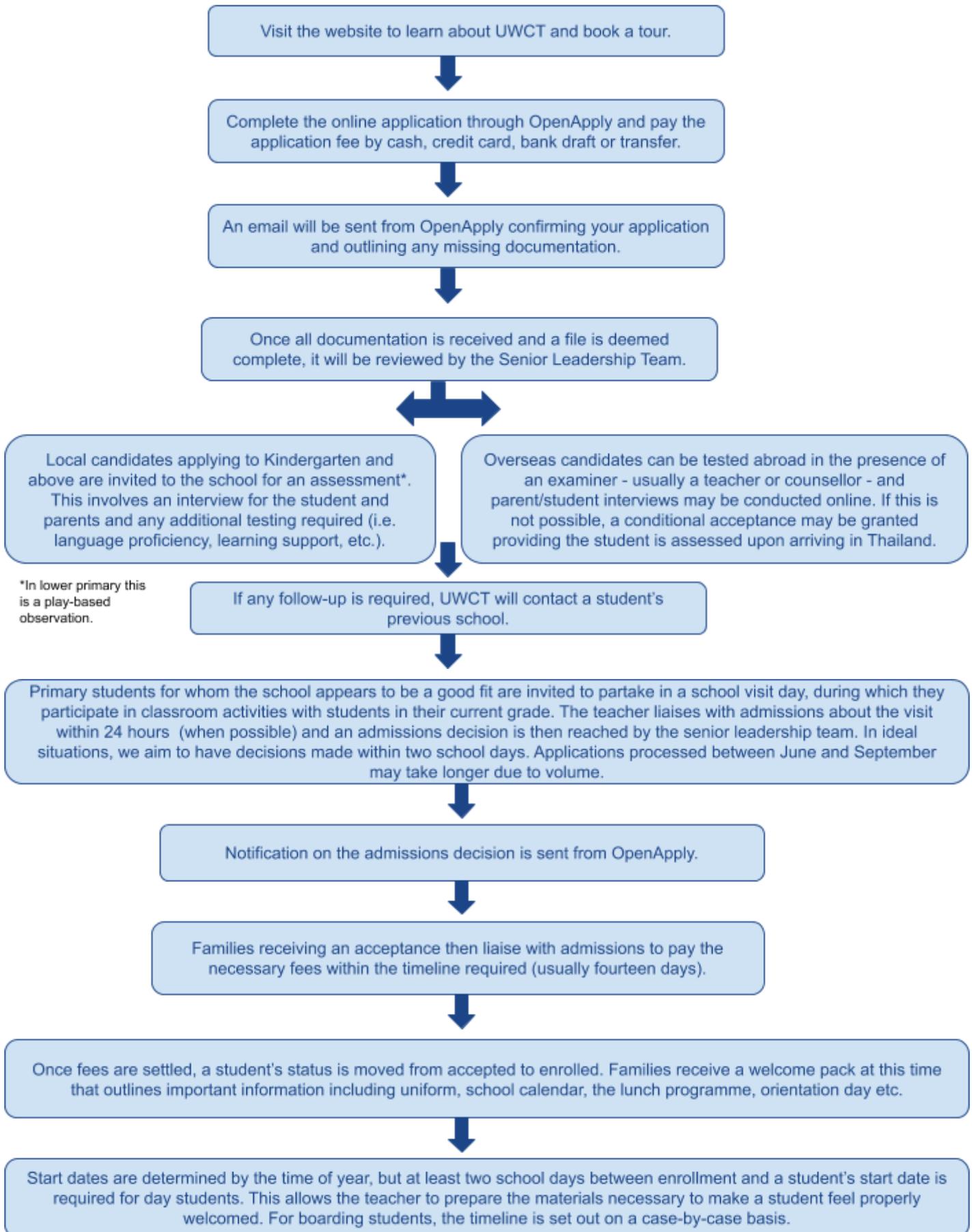
The admissions process at United World College Thailand (UWCT) exists so that prospective families and the school can work together to determine if UWCT is best positioned to help their child maximize their potential. Ensuring that the school can meet an individual student's needs and their family's expectations is fundamental to the creation of a positive and long-lasting, family-school relationships. To deliver on our commitment to provide "an education like no other", we rely on the entire community to support the goals of our students. As partners in raising our students, it is an expectation that families join us in being positive, collaborative and active participants in the UWCT learning and service communities.

As we begin this journey together, the way in which we communicate, interact and share information is paramount. At UWCT, we hold each other accountable to ensure that communication between students, families, and staff remains honest, respectful and constructive. At UWCT we also value transparency. In rare situations where information is intentionally withheld during the application process, or behaviour exhibited during interactions with the school does not align with the school's values, the school reserves the right to refuse admission or to ask a student to withdraw.

It is our experience that the more information that is shared between the school and a prospective family during the admissions process, the more positive and collaborative this experience becomes for everyone involved. At UWCT, we aim to make this process as streamlined and efficient as possible, without compromising the quality of information that needs to be shared between applicants, admissions staff, administration, teachers, specialists, etc. We believe that taking the extra time to make sure data is accurately collected, students are comfortable, and that all questions have been answered, ensures that everyone is more confident in the decisions made.

Families interested in UWCT are encouraged to learn about the United World College movement and the International Baccalaureate before coming to visit the campus for a tour. Visiting the campus allows families to see the school in action and to experience first-hand the caring nature of our educational community. Tours can be easily booked through the school website and are available three times per week. If you are unable to attend a tour, please contact the admissions team directly via admissions@uwcthailand.ac.th.

To ensure there is equity in the admission process, all direct-entry enquiries are referred to the admissions team; apart from those in Grade 11. (Please see the section on Diploma Programme admissions). The school's admissions team then contacts prospective families to answer any initial questions and refer them to OpenApply, the School's web-based admissions application. From this stage, the application process follows the procedures outlined on the following page:



In enrolling students from around the world, the grade in which a student belongs is an area that can cause confusion. The chart below helps to clarify the equivalence between UWCT’s grading nomenclature and a number of international systems.

UWCT Class Comparison Chart							
Age as of Aug 15	UWCT class	Equivalent class in other educational systems					
		Thailand	USA/ Canada	AUS	India	UK/NZ	Russia
3-4	P1	A1	Nursery	P1	Nursery	Nursery	Детский сад
4-5	P2	A2	Jr. Kin	P2	K 1	Kin	Детский сад
5-6	Kin	A3	Kin	Kin/Prep	K 2	Y 1	Детский сад
6-7	G1	P1	G 1	Y 1	Std 1	Y 2	1 класс
7-8	G2	P2	G 2	Y 2	Std 2	Y 3	2класс
8-9	G3	P3	G 3	Y 3	Std 3	Y 4	3 класс
9-10	G4	P4	G 4	Y 4	Std 4	Y 5	4 класс
10-11	G5	P5	G 5	Y 5	Std 5	Y 6	5 класс
11-12	G6	P6	G 6	Y 6	Std 6	Y 7	6 класс
12-13	G7	M1	G 7	Y 7	Std 7	Y 8	7 класс
13-14	G8	M2	G 8	Y 8	Std 8	Y 9	8 класс
14-15	G9	M3	G 9	Y 9	Std 9	Y 10	9 класс
15-16	G10	M4	G 10	Y 10	Std 10	Y 11	10 класс
16-17	G11	M5	G 11	Y 11	Higher 1	Y 12	11 класс
17-18	G12	M6	G 12	Y 12	Higher 2	Y 13	12 класс

UWCT Guiding Principles for Admissions

1. **Diversity:** UWC Thailand accepts students for whom the school is a good fit regardless of race, ethnicity, colour, religion, sexual orientation or national or ethnic origin. In order to maintain deliberate diversity within the student body, UWCT aims to have a student body representative of many nationalities, with no one nationality being a population greater than 20%.
2. **Timeline:** Applications for admission to UWCT (from Nursery and above) are accepted throughout the year. An applicant may be considered for admission after the application and all supporting documents have been received and reviewed by the admissions committee and a seat is available in the appropriate grade level and programme. Enrollment will commence on a date determined by the school after consideration of the student's schedule as well as the UWCT school calendar.
3. **Academic Record:** Starting in Grade 2, UWCT requires all students to submit the previous two years of report cards/transcripts in English (original or attested translations). Students applying for Grade 1 need only submit their Kindergarten reports. In exceptional circumstances, students may be admitted on a conditional basis pending the arrival of their reports/transcript. Students are eligible for admission if the leadership team believes that the school is able to meet the student's educational and social-emotional needs.
4. **Learning Support:** UWCT has a broad acceptance policy, and is currently home to students with learning differences who receive support from the school's learning support services. It is important for families to note; however, that all entrants to UWC Thailand are placed in a regular homeroom. For students requiring more intensive support in strengthening cognitive function, UWCT is home to Thailand's only Arrowsmith Programme. For more on the Arrowsmith Programme, please see page 5.
5. **Language Proficiency:** The primary language of instruction at UWCT is English. Although students learn Thai in accordance with Ministry requirements, UWCT does not offer an English-Thai bilingual programme. Students entering the Early Years Programme (EYP) are not required to be fluent in English. For students entering PYP, English language fluency is not a requirement, but is a consideration. For students entering the Secondary School, a level of English proficiency is required; the extent of which is grade dependent. In order to ascertain the school's ability to support a student's language needs, oral and/or written examinations in English may be required.
6. **Class Composition:** In order to ensure we are able to meet every student's needs, while remaining a community that respects and embraces many different kinds of learners, UWCT aims to cap each class at 20% for students needing either ESOL or learning support.
7. **Age-Appropriate Placement:** It is the policy of UWCT to place students in age-appropriate classes, regardless of academic capability. The teaching staff at UWCT is skilled in differentiating for students' academic abilities and can scaffold lessons in order to challenge students who are academically advanced. As such, it is our policy to keep students with their peer group. Exceptions to this policy are extraordinarily rare. In cases where a student was promoted above grade level at another school prior to joining UWCT, we will honour that move as long as the school and parents agree that the move has been successful and the child is flourishing.

A question we often ask parents wishing to advance a student into the next grade level ahead of time is to think about that student's goals upon graduation. Will the student be prepared for the daily challenges of living on their own at university a year earlier? Will the student find friends in a peer group that is older and often participating in age-restricted activities? While we are mindful of a student's current experience, we must also consider the long-term impact of grade advancement.

8. **Decisions:** The Head of School, in conjunction with the senior leadership team, establishes the procedures that govern admission applications to the school. The Principals make initial decisions on whether or not to accept a student into the school, and final acceptance decisions are then made by the Head of School, who signs each acceptance letter. UWCT reserves the right to revoke its acceptance if pertinent information has been withheld from the school; the student's behaviour is detrimental to other student's welfare and/or the learning community; or the school can no longer meet the student's needs.

The Arrowsmith Programme

The Arrowsmith Programme is based on the philosophy that it is possible to address specific learning difficulties by identifying and strengthening weak cognitive capacities. The Arrowsmith Programme first identifies areas of learning strength and weakness within the student through careful assessment in order to create an individualised learning profile. It then utilises the science of neuroplasticity to design a programme of individualised exercises that target the student's precise areas of weakness.

The programme can offer potential life-changing results for students with a range of learning difficulties, and has benefitted students that have experienced difficulty with reading, writing and mathematics, comprehension, logical reasoning, problem solving, visual and auditory memory, non-verbal learning, attention, processing speed and dyslexia. The ultimate goal is to enable students to become effective, confident and self-directed learners for life and to enable them to achieve their goals of academic and career success.

UWCT introduced the Arrowsmith Programme in 2015, and is currently the first and only school in Thailand to offer it. The programme is suitable for students aged 9 to 18.

Due to the specialised nature of this programme, applicants follow a more in-depth application process. Successful candidates are jointly accepted by Arrowsmith and UWCT and a different set of fees apply.

Below is a top-line overview of the application process:

1. Interested families are required to contact the Arrowsmith Coordinator directly to assess the programme's potential fit for their child.
2. Candidates who then wish to pursue an application, arrange to visit the school for an interview and an in-depth assessment (over the course of two days, for three to four hours a day). The assessments are sent to a central office in Toronto for results, and are usually returned within two working days.

3. When the Programme Coordinator and the family agree that Arrowsmith appears to be a good fit, they are then introduced to the UWCT admissions team. The UWCT admissions team proceeds with creating all documents for a formal application to UWCT. This includes documents needed to apply for a student visa. All documents created are within the guidelines of Thai Immigration and Ministry of Education.
4. Once the application is complete, the candidate meets with the UWCT Head of School, and a formal letter of decision is issued from UWCT.

For more information, please visit the [Arrowsmith website](#).

United World College Scholars and Direct Entry DP Applicants

There are four ways to become a part of the Diploma Programme at UWCT. The first is by matriculating through the school from a lower grade (i.e. a grade 10 student who is promoted to Grade 11).

The second is by applying directly to the school. The direct-entry process is similar to the process in any other grade level, but students must show they can manage the academic rigour of the DP through sitting some standardized tests, language proficiency and a more in-depth interview process. Students who apply are encouraged to be able to show a commitment to leadership and evidence of being an agent for change. Direct-entry applicants for the Diploma Programme, should contact the school in their Grade 10 year as DP courses are two years long. NOTE: This will change in 2019-2020.

The third way to join UWCT is to become a United World College National Scholar or to apply through the UWC Global Selection Program (GSP). To do this, applicants must apply through the UWC National Committee in their country of residence or citizenship. There are more than 3,000 dedicated volunteers who promote the UWC movement, find, interview and select students in more than 155 countries. Visit www.uwc.org for more details.

Over 65% of UWC students selected for UWC through the UWC National Committee system receive a full or partial scholarship, enabling admission to a UWC school to be independent of socio-economic means. This means that anybody can apply to UWC! The National Committees are looking for students who want to become a change-maker for a better world; students of promise and potential and aligned with the UWC mission and vision, independent of whether they are able to contribute financially to their studies.

Applications through a National Committee need to be addressed to the UWC movement, rather than an individual school or college. Applicants can usually name their preference, but National Committees reserve the right to nominate a candidate for any College or School at their discretion, depending on availability. National Committees make recommendations for admission, but the School or College makes the final decision on whether to accept a proposed candidate. **Please note that if your application to a National Committee is made and denied, this prohibits the student from applying directly to any UWC School.**

To apply to be a National Committee scholar, please look up your National Committee online. If you do not have a national committee, or are not eligible to apply through one, look at the [How to Apply](#) section on the UWC website for more information.