STOWE SCHOOL

1 Notes for Pupils normally resident outside the UK but not requiring a visa (i.e. British nationals overseas, or students with an EEA passport).

When you accept your place at Stowe, we require two things from you:

- **1.** A copy of your passport.
- 2. Our Education Guardianship Form, signed by the Education Guardian and your parents, as outlined in our Education Guardian Policy. Your Education Guardian will be expected to arrange transport, and accommodate you in a home environment at Exeats, and other holidays if you do not return home. Our Educational Guardianship Policy and Form are available to download from our website.

If you travel unaccompanied to the UK without parents or guardian, we advise you to download and complete a copy of our <u>Travel Consent Form</u> from our website and carry it with you when travelling. It also advisable to carry a photocopy of your parent's passport to accompany the Consent Form, and a copy of your original offer letter from Stowe.

2 Notes for Pupils already resident in the UK but with a non-EEA passport.

When you accept your place at Stowe, we require two things from you:

- **1.** A copy of your passport.
- **2.** A copy of any current permission to remain in the UK which you may already hold. This includes Indefinite Leave to Remain, Tier 1 Investor or Dependent Visa. Tier 4 students see point 3 below.

3 Notes for Pupils requiring a Tier 4 Student Visa (i.e. students resident outside the EEA and with a non-EEA passport).

Stowe School is a Tier 4 Sponsor for UK Visas and Immigration. We are licensed to support Confirmations of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) for Tier 4 student (**child**) visas.

If you already hold a Tier 4 student visa from another UK school, this will **not** be accepted for studying at Stowe. You must apply for a new visa under Stowe's sponsorship licence.

When you accept your place at Stowe, we require four things from you:

1. A copy of your passport. Ideally your passport should not expire until after the end of your proposed course (3 years for GCSE; 2 years for A Level).

- 2. Our Education Guardianship Form, signed by the Education Guardian and your parents, as outlined in our Education Guardian Policy. Your Education Guardian will be expected to arrange transport, and accommodate you in a home environment at Exeats, and other holidays if you do not return home. Our Educational Guardianship Policy and Form are available to download from our website.
- **3.** The completed <u>Tier 4 Consent Letter</u>, signed by both parents. This is available to download from our website.
- 4. When you apply for your visa you must show you have the money available to pay your school fees for the first year of the course. The most straightforward way to do this is to pay a year's fees in advance before we apply for the CAS so that we can state on your CAS that fees have been paid in full. If a year's fees are not paid in advance, you must prove to the UKVI when you submit your visa application that the necessary funds are available. There are specific guidelines about what evidence you must provide in order to do this.

If you wish to pay fees in advance, please contact us to request a pro-forma invoice to enable you to do so. The fees for 2017-18 will be £35,595.

Once we have the passport copy, the Education Guardianship Form, the Tier 4 Consent Letter and the fees we will apply for your CAS. The CAS is an online file which is available for the UK Visa & Immigration staff to view when processing your visa application. Once we have a CAS number from UKVI we will email you the pdf file. You will need to enter the CAS number on your application The UKVI fee for issuing the CAS (currently £21) will also be charged to your pupil account at Stowe.

Full advice on how to apply for a Tier 4 (child) student visa can be found at:www.gov.uk/child-study-visa

You must apply online for a Tier 4 (Child) visa via www.gov.uk/apply-uk-visa

You can apply for a visa up to 3 months before your date of travel to the UK. You will usually get a decision on your visa within 3 weeks. You can check visa processing times for your country on the gov.uk website. It costs £328 to apply for a Tier 4 (Child) student visa from outside the UK.

You will also have to pay the healthcare surcharge as part of your application. This cost may vary depending upon your nationality and length of course, but is in the region of £150 for each year of the course. You may be required to provide a tuberculosis (TB) certificate so please ensure that you allow plenty of time to get an appointment at an approved clinic before submitting your visa application.

You will need to have your fingerprints and photograph taken at a visa application centre (to get a biometric residence permit) as part of your application.

You will be asked on your application to state where you wish your Biometric Residence Permit sent to for collection. You should quote Stowe's ACL code which is **2SC997** so that your BRP will be sent directly to Stowe's Admissions Office ready for collection when you start school.

After submitting your application you will get a 'decision letter' from UKVI and if your leave is granted, you will be given a 30 day travel vignette in your passport. The vignette means you have permission to come to the UK and is valid for 30 days from the date you said you would arrive in the UK (even if you arrive at a later date). You will have to apply for another 30 day visa if you don't travel within that 30 days.

If you travel unaccompanied to the UK without parents or guardian, we advise you to download and complete a copy of our <u>Travel Consent Form</u> from our website and carry it with you when travelling. It also advisable to carry a photocopy of your parent's passport to accompany the Consent Form, and a copy of your original offer letter from Stowe.

You must bring your passport or travel document with your vignette sticker in when you collect your BRP from the Admissions Office at Stowe. Pupils will not be allowed into class until a copy of their passport and entry stamp has been taken. If you are required to register with the Police, we will arrange this for you within the first few days of the term. Your passport and BRP should be handed to your Housemaster or Housemistress for safekeeping during term time.

4 Notes for current Stowe pupils renewing their Tier 4 Visas.

A Tier 4 visa is issued for the duration of your course (i.e. GCSE or A Levels). If you are a current pupil moving from Fifth Form to Lower Sixth, you must apply for a new Tier 4 (Child) Student Visa **before** returning to school to commence your A Level course in the September, even if your old visa has not expired. You do not need to wait for your GCSE results before applying, but please be aware that we will not apply for a CAS unless we feel that you will meet our academic requirements to progress into Sixth Form.

You may apply to renew your visa either in your own country or in the UK.

If you apply in your own country, please see the advice given under section 3 above. It costs £328 to apply in your own country.

If you apply in the UK please refer to the guidance given here:https://www.gov.uk/child-study-visa/extend-your-visa</u>. You must apply **before** returning to Stowe for the start of the Michaelmas Term. It costs £448 to apply in the UK using the Standard Service (eight weeks). There is also a 10 day Priority Service which costs £823, or a same day Premium Service which costs £948.

Queries may be addressed to the Admissions Office at Stowe:

admissions@stowe.co.uk 01280 818205 01280 818323

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