

WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A Business & Enterprise School for Boys

Admissions for 2013

Admission Arrangements for September 2013 a 'one stop' guide for parents.

Each year we receive early requests for information about enrolment. This information is intended for parents who have sons who will be starting their secondary education in September 2013 (children who are in Year 6 during the 2012/2013 school year).

Please take your time to look through our website; it will give you a flavour of how much goes on at Wirral Boys both on the academic and extra-curricular sides. In our Ofsted inspection, a parent commented: *"Wirral Grammar is an excellent school"; the boys are not only given an excellent academic grounding, but they gain independence and responsibility, my son is extremely happy and settled here.*" Of course, the best way to get to know a school is to have a look around. You will find information in this document about our Information Evening, our Open Evenings and our Open Morning

We have provided this guide to assist parents through what is, understandably, a potentially complicated process. If you would like to have it explained to you, or if you require any assistance, you are welcome to contact Mrs Tanya Fry (School Admissions Manager) on 0151 644 0908.

Changes to the Testing Arrangements

Please take your time to read the information on our website about changes to the timing of the 11+ for admissions from 2013 onwards.

Applying from Wirral

Parents of pupils in Wirral should refer to the 'Secondary Education in Wirral 2013-2014' guide for parents which will become available later during this academic year. It is made available to parents of Year 6 pupils at primary school and will also be available on-line. The admissions portal is set up through Wirral Council and the link is: www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Our admissions process is managed by Wirral Local Authority. The 'Secondary Education in Wirral 2013 - 2014' publication will explain how to go about selecting your choice of school and the arrangements for testing. There are two important dates for parents to be aware of. If you would like your son to sit the 11+ test, a **Test Request Form**

(which will be supplied with the 'Secondary Education in Wirral 2013-2014' pack) first needs to be completed and returned to the Local Authority by the specified date. This purpose of this form is to allow the Local Authority to order the correct number of test papers. Please note that this can also be downloaded from the Wirral Council admissions portal: www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions

To make your choice of school, the **School Preference Form** (which will be supplied with the 'Secondary Education in Wirral 2013-2014' pack) needs to be completed and returned to your primary school by the specified date. If you do not receive this form you can contact the Local Authority on 0151 606 2000. Alternatively you can contact school on 0151 644 0908 and ask for Mrs Tanya Fry who will assist you.

Each year the Local Authority organises an Admissions Portal:
www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Through this link you will be able to down-load and submit your preference on-line. Preference forms usually need to be returned at the end of October, but remember, you need to return your Test Request Form before the end of May.

Applying from outside Wirral?

If you are applying from Cheshire, you will need to follow the admissions process for Cheshire. The following link will take you to the Cheshire Authority admissions guidance:

http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/education_and_learning/school_admissions/apply_online_for_school_places.aspx

IMPORTANT! Even if you are applying from outside Wirral you will need to return a **Test Request Form** by the date specified by Wirral Local Authority, this is likely to be late May 2012. This can be obtained direct from Wirral Local Authority and from the Wirral Council admissions page: www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions

The purpose of the test form is to let Wirral Local Authority know how many test papers need to be ordered, it is important that this form is completed and returned otherwise there will be no record of your son's name for the purpose of arranging the test. Please note that the form cannot be sent electronically, it will need to be printed out.

Testing Arrangements

If your son is in a primary school in Wirral, it is likely that he will take the 11+ test at his school; your son's primary Headteacher can confirm this for you. Boys who live in Cheshire would take the test at a specified test centre and this is often at Wirral Grammar School. The assessment is a verbal reasoning one and each boy sits two tests. There are also practice test days which follow exactly the same procedure as the actual test themselves.

Admissions Numbers and Standards

The admission number for Wirral Grammar School for Boys is 155. Wirral, like most areas of the country, is experiencing falling rolls which means that there are fewer pupils at all ability levels, in some years therefore we have a few places left after the allocations have been made. At Wirral Grammar School for Boys we feel that maintaining our entry standard is essential, even if this means us having a few places left unfilled at the end of the process.

A concern for parents who live 'out of area' is whether distance from the school will mean that they will not get a place. This very much depends on the level of demand in any given year and so assurances are hard to give. Over the past few years, all pupils who have reached the standard and who have wanted to join the school have been able to do so and this is a reflection of falling rolls. There have been exceptions to this though and with growing interest in the school from further afield it could be that this extra demand will cancel the effect of falling rolls.

Parents of Pupils currently in Year 5 (2012/13)

If you have a son who is currently in Year 5, please note that we will be holding **Information Evenings on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th May 2012**. On this occasion, parents are invited to come along prior to the Open Evenings, which will be held mid September 2012. The Information Evening is aimed at parents who are less familiar with our school and would like some basic information prior to the summer holidays.

Further Information

If we can assist you in any way, feel free to call us on 0151 644 0908 and ask for Mrs Tanya Fry who will assist you with your enquiry. In addition you can find news about our school and our Prospectus on this website. Our 'Parent Handbook' can be obtained from this website and it contains all the specific details about our school.

Outstanding education that does not cost the earth

Wirral Grammar School for Boys is a state school. We are very proud of the fact that we offer free education that is nationally recognised to be outstanding. Standards at both GCSE and A Level are excellent, for example, over half of all GCSE grades were A* or A in the 2011 summer examinations. Result information is available via the DCSF website (www.dcsf.gov.uk) and the Ofsted website (www.ofsted.gov.uk). If you have a son who is currently attending an independent secondary school and you would like him to join Wirral Grammar School, please contact Mrs Tanya Fry, the school Admissions Manager and she will advise you accordingly.

New Bus Routes

In response to increased demand from outside Wirral, we will have a bus-transport scheme from Ellesmere Port and Neston. Details of this can be obtained from the school.

Come and see us!

If you would like to come along and see us, please contact the school. Our Head Boy and Prefect Team act as tour guides and will be pleased to show you around the school.

Finally, if you wish to find out more or if you require extra information about the admissions process, please do not hesitate to call.

Tanya Fry (Admissions Manager) Tel: 0151 644 0908

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