

Proud to be Specialist

Most Secondary Schools have a chosen specialist focus: Technology, Performing Arts, Languages and Sport, to name a few. Our chosen specialism is 'Business and Enterprise'. This is an ideal focus for a Boys' Grammar School. Many students go on to pursue successful careers in leading and shaping both Public and Private organisations. Enterprise enrichment is a distinctive feature of our school and opportunities are wide-ranging; activities include: charity fund-raising, small-business management, web-site design, partner projects involving primary school pupils and outdoor enterprise programmes.

"Pupils are well-prepared for their future economic well-being through events such as regular enterprise days." Ofsted

"Students' contribution to the community through charity fund raising and voluntary community projects is outstanding." Ofsted

Additional Information

We have available a range of publications that provide more information about life at Wirral Grammar School for Boys, these include:

- The School Brochure
- 'Parent Handbook' which is revised each year
- Sixth Form Prospectus and Application Form
- Welcome Guide for New Parents
- Details of Admission Arrangements
- Copies of our termly news publication; 'Nuntius'

In the Autumn Term we hold an Open Evening for parents who are considering places for the following academic year. We are also pleased to show prospective parents around our school and this can be arranged by appointment.

The publications can be obtained directly from the school and may be viewed through our school web-site: www.wirralgrammarboys.com

Location and Facilities

Wirral Grammar School for Boys is situated in Higher Bebington, one mile from Junction 4 of the M53. We occupy a large, self-contained site adjacent to our sister school, Wirral Grammar School for Girls. We have extensive specialist facilities and much of our accommodation is brand new or very recent. Significant new building work has taken place in the last five years and we now have our own Sports Hall, a specialist Design and Technology Centre and a new two-storey teaching block with music rooms, ICT suites, Science labs along with Mathematics and Business Studies teaching rooms. The original building was constructed in 1931 when the school opened. We have extensive playing fields and a wooded area that that has been developed into a Conservation Area.



WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A Foundation Business & Enterprise School for Boys

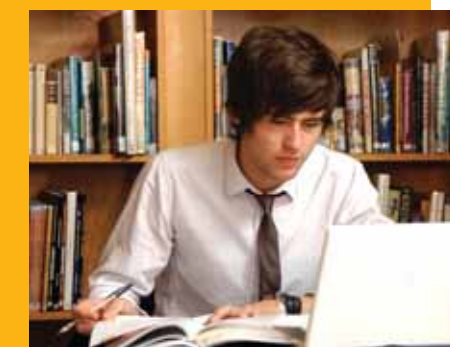


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Cross Lane, Bebington,
Wirral CH63 3AQ
www.wirralgrammarboys.com

INFORMATION GUIDE



Introducing Wirral Grammar School for Boys

Wirral Grammar School is a selective state Foundation School. We serve the immediate community of Bebington and Bromborough and each year, significant large numbers of pupils join us from all over Wirral and across the County border into Cheshire.

Entry into the school is by the 11+ assessment that boys take at a designated test centre in the Autumn Term of Year 6. This process is managed by Wirral Local Authority. Admission into all other year groups is subject to there being any places available and is managed by the School. Full details of testing arrangements are available separately.

As a 'Foundation School' we operate with a higher degree of independence than many other state schools. All staff are employed by the school. We make our own decisions on key matters relating to finance, staffing and curriculum provision. An illustration of how we are able to make our own decisions, in the best interests of our pupils, is our recent decision to sell some surplus land and to generate in the region of half a million pounds of additional revenue to invest in new infrastructure. We feel that as a Foundation School we are able to tailor our provision to meet the best interests of our school community. We are not a 'fee-paying' school; we pride ourselves in providing free, state education of a very high standard.

Conduct and Expectations

Wirral Grammar School is a well-ordered community. Standards of conduct are excellent and this is a constant feature of our school. We have a firm but caring approach. Our pupils behave well because they have a clear sense of what is right and wrong. Poor conduct is not tolerated and we employ clear, fair and appropriate sanctions. Our values form our cornerstone: Respect, Cooperation, Courtesy, Fairness, Justice, Trust and Honesty. At Wirral Grammar School, we do not 'teach' values, we live them.

"Personal development at this school is outstanding and makes a significant contribution to students' good progress. Students are particularly mature, confident and responsible and take pride in their achievements." Ofsted

"Attendance is excellent, reflecting students' tremendous enthusiasm and enjoyment of learning. Their behaviour is exemplary." Ofsted

Outstanding Achievement

Our academic achievements are very high. We believe that there is the opportunity for intellectual challenge and rigour whatever the pupil's interests; whether they be of an academic or practical nature. Results at GCSE and A Level are consistently among the highest in the country. In a typical year, all boys entered for GCSE examinations gain at least five at grades A* to C and well over two thirds of all passes are at the highest grades: A*, A and B. Significant numbers of boys gain A* and A grades in all of their subjects. We offer an extension programme for more able pupils with access to a range of additional courses including Astronomy, Critical Thinking and Philosophy.

The vast majority of boys choose to stay on into the Sixth Form where teaching by high calibre subject specialists ensures achievement potential is maximised. Each year we attract increasing numbers of students from other institutions. Well over 80% of boys are successful in gaining both their first choice of University and course. Significant numbers of students gain places at Medical School and students progress to a range of highly regarded Universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. A separate Sixth Form Prospectus and Application Form are available from the School.

We reward achievement in a whole host of ways: an Annual Awards Ceremony, Commendation Certificates and Prizes, and through a range of competitions and subject-specific presentations, most notably in Music and Sport.

"Results gained in external tests and GCSE examinations at the end of Year 11 are exceptionally high. Due to outstanding teaching and learning, assessment and guidance, students make excellent progress and achieve outstanding results." Ofsted

"Enthusiastic subject specialists provide dynamic teaching leading to vibrant learning." Ofsted

Individual Care

Wirral Grammar School for Boys is the optimum size for a secondary school. We have just over one thousand pupils on roll, including 300 in our Sixth Form. Year Groups typically comprise 150 pupils in five Tutor Groups. Our school is large enough to provide a wide range of subjects to accommodate both academic and practical interests, yet small enough for each boy to be known as an individual. Teachers quickly get to know each boy and tailor their support and guidance to address specific needs. The Headteacher provides direct support and guidance along side the Heads of Year in order to address specific concerns.

Able students are provided with additional challenges through a range of tutored and self-study courses. Boys who require learning support have dedicated one-to-one guidance provided by specialist staff. At Wirral Grammar School we believe that pupils learn most effectively when they are happy, settled and supported.

"Day to day pastoral care is outstanding and makes a significant contribution to learners' personal development." Ofsted

Parents as Learning Partners

Our experience shows that pupils perform to the best of their ability where there is a constructive and purposeful partnership between school and home. We enjoy superb parental support and this is instrumental in raising standards and setting high expectations. Parents often come into school to meet with teachers and Heads of Year to discuss pupils' progress. Attendance at Parents' Evening is exceptionally high. All parents are provided with target information for their son whether this be for Key Stage 3 SATs in Year 9, GCSEs in Year 11 or A Levels in Year 13. Performance monitoring against the specified targets take place each term; where there are areas of concern these are quickly addressed. All parents receive a Curriculum Guide at the start of each year and these contain details about individual subjects by way of topic to be taught, methods of assessment, type of homework activities to be set and way in which parents can provide support.

Recent surveys show that parents rate the school very highly in terms of the quality of teaching, the quality of care and the wealth of extra-curricular provision. Our parents are also determined to see that Wirral Grammar School continues to develop and flourish. Suggestions for improvement help to inform our planning and future thinking so that we continue to respond to the needs of our community. Developments in ICT provision, lesson timings and provision for independent study are among some of the improvement themes noted by parents.

Beyond the Classroom

At Wirral Grammar School, boys work hard and play hard. We believe that education should be about more than academic success alone. We have a rich variety of clubs, activity groups and a varied programme of school visits. Many boys represent the School in Sport and/or Music. There can be over 150 boys taking part in Sports at a weekend. One third of all pupils are actively involved in music, supported by nineteen peripatetic music tutors. Each year we have a School Production that reflects an exceptionally high standard of musical and dramatic performance. Quality time is set aside for Personal, Health and Social Education through themed 'Activity Days' for each Year Group.

"Students throughout the school place great value on the extra-curricular activities available to them. An extensive range of opportunities such as in music and drama is an outstanding feature of the school." Ofsted