

Wirral Grammar School for Boys

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Admissions draft 2024-25

Admission of Pupils at Start of Year 7

The school plans to admit 170 boys. Only boys who attain the required standard in the arrangements for selection by reference to ability and aptitude will be eligible to be considered for admission to the school. Admission to the school is determined by the Governors. The school's assessment arrangements will be conducted by Wirral Local Authority.

Pupils take the assessment during the Autumn Term of the final year of primary education. To ensure that children are not disadvantaged because of their date of birth, in each case the score is adjusted to take account of each child's exact age. Parents are notified of their son's result in October, prior to the deadline for returning school place selection forms.

Places will be offered to pupils who have been deemed to be of suitable ability according to Wirral Local Authority Assessment Procedures on the basis of the following criteria which will also be applied in the case of over-subscription:

- A. Up to 30 places for Looked After Children and/or Previously Looked After Children* in care outside of England, or Children with Pupil or Service Premium living within the catchment area with a score at and above or, up to 5 marks below the eligible score.
- B. Children who have a valid medical reason for a specific placement. You must give details on the preference form, and this may be checked by a medical officer of the health authority. A letter in support from a senior health care professional will be required as evidence when you submit your preference form. You need to make it clear why only this school is appropriate for your child's medical needs.
- C. Siblings. Siblings include step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently at the same address, who attend the school.
- D. Children of Staff. Staff must have been employed by the Trust for a minimum of two years or have been recently employed to a post with a demonstrable skills shortage.
- E. By reference to geographical factors, preference will be given to children with the shortest distance from their home to the school as measured by Wirral Local Authority's computer mapping system.

*A Looked After child is a child who is a) in the care of a local authority, or b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). A previously looked after child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.

NB: The school has facilities to enable disabled pupils' access to all the curriculum.

Any offer of a place may be withdrawn if it is discovered that misleading information has been provided to secure an offer.

Moving into the area/late applications

Parents should contact the Local Authority in the first instance. Where children have never previously taken the admission assessment, this can be arranged by the School's Admissions Manager in discussion with the Local Authority.

Sixth Form Entry

Priority for entry is given to existing students in the school. Each year the school welcomes a number of students from other schools. Places are offered after a visit to the school by a prospective student and their parent /carer and meeting with the Sixth Form Team. There is no limit upon entry provided admissions do not prejudice efficient education.

As a guide, students typically enter the Sixth Form with a minimum of 6 GCSE grades at 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Our prime concern is for students to embark on courses that are appropriate for their ability. A grade 6 or 7 is considered a solid starting point to continue a subject to A level. All requests for admission to sixth form are considered on an individual basis.

Admissions other than at the start of Year 7

Where parents feel that there is genuine reason for considering a change of school, admission is provided if they have reached the required standard as determined by the school's assessment procedures.

If a boy took the 11+ assessment in Year 6 and did not achieve the standard for Grammar School admission, it is not possible for the school to re-assess until the next academic year. Students can only be admitted to other age groups provided they have reached the entry standard and that their admission does not prejudice efficient education and the efficient use of resources.

Appeals against Admission Decisions

Arrangements will be made for parents who are dissatisfied with an admission decision to appeal against it. Appeals will be heard by an Admissions Appeals Panel constituted under the Education Act 1998, providing they are lodged within the prescribed period. The process for appeals is explained in the Local Authority guidance.