



# Admissions Policy

## 2023 - 2024

### **Admission of Pupils at Start of Year 7**

The school plans to admit 155 students. Only students 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. In order 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 child'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:

- Students who are looked after or previously looked after. 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.
- To those students with a valid medical reason supported by a doctor's letter. Details must be given on the preference form and will be verified by a medical officer of the Area Health Authority.
- Up to 15 places for children at the time of application on Free School Meals who achieve the qualifying score in rank order of distance from the school. Details must be given on the preference form and will be verified.
- To those students with a sibling [1] attending the school at the time of application with a reasonable expectation that they will be attending at the time of the start of the new academic year.
- 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.

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

Any offer of a place may be withdrawn if it is discovered that misleading information has been provided in order to secure an offer.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 meeting with the Headteacher. 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 passes at Grade 6 or higher, and including English and Mathematics. Our prime concern is for students to embark on courses that are appropriate for their ability. In many cases, students start A Level courses in subjects where they have gained the top grades (7 to 9) in these subjects at GCSE.

## **Admissions other than at the start of Year 7**

Our policy is to advise against a change of school part way through a school year due to the potential negative impact on learning progression. Where parents feel that there is genuine reason for considering a change of school, admission is provided as long as they have reached the required standard as determined by the school's assessment procedures.

If a child 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 twelve months have elapsed.

Pupils 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.

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[1] Sibling is defined as either (i) a sibling by the same parents or (ii) a half or step-sibling living in the same household.