



Quest

Wirral Non-Faith Grammar Schools 11+ Admissions – FAQs

1. Why have the arrangements for the 11+ test changed?

The non-faith Wirral grammar schools (West Kirby Grammar School, Wirral Grammar School for Girls, Wirral Grammar School for Boys, Calday Grange Grammar School) have reviewed the testing process to ensure it remains fair, robust and sustainable. As part of this, we have moved to a new test provider and updated elements of the process to improve clarity, consistency and the overall experience for pupils and families. Please be aware that testing at Upton Hall School FCJ or St Anselm's College are separate from this.

2. What has changed about the test itself?

The test will now be delivered through a different provider. However, for this first year, we have taken the decision to retain the same overall style and format of the test, including the areas assessed and their relative weightings, in order to provide as much consistency as possible for pupils.

For future cohorts, parents/carers should refer to the 11+ admissions information published on school and Local Authority websites, as elements of the test may be updated over time. This was also the case under the previous provider.

3. Why are the grammar schools working together on this process?

The non-faith Wirral grammar schools operate as a consortium to ensure a fair, consistent and efficient testing process for all pupils.

4. Has the standard required to pass changed?

No. The standard required to be considered suitable for a grammar school place remains consistent. The process of standardisation ensures fairness for all pupils, regardless of the specific test taken.

5. How and when do I register my child for the test?

Registration will open and close in line with the dates published on each school's website and the Local Authority website. Parents/carers should complete the registration process within this window.

6. Can my child sit the test at any grammar school?

The test is shared across the non-faith Wirral grammar schools, so your child only needs to sit it once, regardless of which grammar school(s) you are applying to. You will be assigned to an appropriate test centre at the point of application.

7. What support is available for children with additional needs?

Support is available for pupils with additional needs, in line with agreed processes. Parents/carers will be asked to provide appropriate evidence as part of the application, and requests will be considered carefully to ensure fairness for all candidates.

8. What happens if my child is unable to attend on the test day?

There will be a process in place for late testing in exceptional circumstances. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

9. How are test results used?

Test results determine whether a pupil has met the required standard for a grammar school place. Meeting the standard does not guarantee a place, as admissions criteria will still apply where schools are oversubscribed.

10. Does meeting the required standard guarantee a place?

No. Where more pupils meet the required standard than there are places available, each school's published admissions criteria will be applied.

11. Will there be changes to the number of places available?

Each school's Published Admission Number (PAN) remains unchanged unless formally consulted upon. Any future changes would be communicated clearly in line with statutory requirements.

12. Who should I contact if I have questions?

In the first instance, please contact the grammar school you are applying to. Schools will work closely with the Local Authority to ensure queries are answered consistently.