



Transfer to Secondary School September 2018

Assessment for Grammar School Education

Register online at wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions

**Closing date for Registration
Wednesday 31st May 2017**



**PLEASE READ
OVERLEAF CAREFULLY**

Assessment for Grammar School Education

Parents of children in Year 5 who wish their child to be assessed for grammar school education are asked to inform the Children and Young People's Department by **31st May 2017** by registering online at www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

If you cannot register online, a paper form is available by calling 0151 606 2020 during office hours or at any Wirral Council One Stop Shop.

You do not complete a form if you intend to give preferences only for all ability schools and/or only for the following schools:

- Birkenhead High School Academy
- St Anselm's College
- Upton Hall School (FCJ)

These three schools conduct their own assessments as described in their prospectus.

Arrangements for assessment

The Children and Young People's Department co-ordinates the admissions arrangements for all the grammar schools in Wirral. It conducts the assessment arrangements for the following schools:

- Calday Grange Grammar School
- West Kirby Grammar School
- Wirral Grammar School for Boys
- Wirral Grammar School for Girls

The assessment is based on the results of two tests. The tests are standardised to take account of each child's exact age to the day. The two test scores are then added together to provide a final score.

Tests will be held on 18 September. Parents whose children will attend a test centre will be informed of the arrangements by the end of August.

Schools have a detailed knowledge of your child. If you have additional information about your child's ability to access the selection tests, you must contact your child's headteacher.

After the tests are marked, an Independent Assessment Board (IAB) will meet to consider children who did not meet the standard and have been referred by their primary school headteacher. The IAB decides whether evidence clearly shows that they should be considered for a grammar school place. Parents who feel that factors may have affected their child's performance must write to their child's headteacher no later than 19th September 2017. The IAB only considers a child's case if referred by the headteacher.

Meeting the grammar standard does not necessarily mean that they will go to a grammar school. If a grammar school is oversubscribed, the governors have to use other criteria to decide which children should be given places.

Individual school admissions policies provide this information and can be found on the school's website or by contacting the school.

Results to parents

At the end of this process, we will have a complete list of the children who are of grammar school standard. We will send the outcome of the grammar school tests to parents by 21st October 2017. We will send your child's results by email otherwise we will write to the address provided by you.

Late applications and tests

No arrangements will be made to assess children if request forms are received after 31st May 2017 unless they have moved to Wirral from another part of the country.

Children who were unable to sit a test due to illness or absence will be tested later in the Autumn term. Parents should still submit a preference form before the 31st October naming at least one grammar school. If their child does not meet the grammar standard, any grammar preferences will be withdrawn.

Applying for places

This is not a preference form.

You must complete an online or paper preference form for your child by 31st October 2017. Residents in English counties outside Wirral must apply through their home authority, naming a Wirral school if they wish to do so.

Parents resident outside England can apply using the Wirral preference form.

All parents must complete a preference form by 31st October.

Low income criteria

All of the Wirral non-Catholic grammar schools have a priority criterion to allocate a number of places to children who are on Free School Meals at the time of application in Autumn 2017. Children still need to reach the standard for admission.

Please see the individual school's admission policy for further details.

If you think your child may be considered under this criterion we will require information from you in order to validate eligibility at that time.

If your circumstances change prior to 31st October 2017 please contact the Wirral Schools Admissions Team immediately.

Further information on the arrangements for expressing preferences is contained in the information booklet "Secondary Education in Wirral" which will be available online from September 2017 onwards.

If you have any questions or queries we will be glad to help. You can email secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk, call **0151 606 2020**, or speak to your child's headteacher.