



Admissions Policies

For all Secondary schools

Secondary

Birkenhead High School Academy

86 Devonshire Place, Prenton, Wirral, CH43 1TY
Girls' Academy aged 3-19

Phone: **0151 652 5777**

Email: **AdmissionsSec@birkhs.gdst.net**

Admission number: **135**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 182, 2nd: 173, 3rd: 131**

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. After the admission of girls with statements of Special Educational Needs where the Academy is named in the statement, the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out in the paragraphs below.

In accordance with its first specialism, Birkenhead High School Academy will select 10% of the places available based on their aptitude for learning music ("the Music criterion"). An appropriate assessment for aptitude for learning music will be carried out by the school. The seven places will be filled by those applicants who are assessed to have the greatest aptitude for music. Should there be a tie for last place(s) available, places will be allocated on a random basis. Where the Academy is oversubscribed the successful Music criterion applicants will not be allocated a place until after all those girls in public care (Looked After Children) have been allocated a place.

All remaining places will be based on a random allocation.

Places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Girls who are in public care (Looked After Children) or were previously in public care, as defined in the School Admissions Code 2021 on the date at which the relevant applicants for admission are made, and who a local authority has confirmed will continue to be looked after by it (in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989) at the time they are admitted to the Academy;
2. Girls who will have a sister, including step, half, adopted or fostered living permanently at the same address, who will continue to be enrolled at Birkenhead High School Academy at the time of the admission.
3. Girls whose parent/s are currently Teaching, Administrative, Support Staff at Birkenhead High School Academy and have been employed for over two years.
4. In the case of twins applying for entry into Year 7, should one be allocated a place the other will automatically be offered a place.
5. Where in category 2) and 3) there are more applicants than there are places available, places will be allocated on a random basis. Any remaining places will be allocated on a random basis to girls applying from across the Wirral and beyond.

To see the full policy for Birkenhead High School Academy, please visit:

<https://www.birkenheadhigh.gdst.net/page/?title=Year+7+Admissions&pid=80>

Calday Grange Grammar School

Grammar School Lane, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 8GG
Grammar Academy admits boys aged 11 to 18
Mixed Sixth Form

Phone: **0151 625 2727**

Email: **theschool@calday.co.uk**

Admission number: **210**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 238, 2nd: 95, 3rd: 36**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 5 (14.680 miles)

Admission of students at start of Year 7 in September 2027

The planned admissions number for Year 7 for the year commencing 1st September 2027 will be 210. Students who attain the qualifying score in the arrangements for selection by reference to ability will be eligible to be considered for admission to the school.

The Governors' arrangements for selection are based upon the following principles:

- (1) Children of parents who have placed Calday Grange Grammar School as a preference on any Local Authority preference form will be considered if their child has reached the required qualifying score.
- (2) Students from all schools will be considered equally in accordance with the published procedures described in this policy.

If the school is oversubscribed - priority will be determined in the following order:

1. Looked After Children (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, child arrangement or special guardianship order.
2. To those children with a valid medical or social reason supported in writing by a doctor, social worker or appropriate professional person.
3. Up to 15 places for children on Targeted Free School Meals at the time of application who achieve the qualifying score in rank order of the shortest walking distance from the school. Details must be provided to Wirral's Children & Young People's Department and this information will be verified.
4. To those children who will have a sibling at the school at the time of admission. A sibling is defined as:-
 - a brother or sister by the same parents
 - a half brother or sister
 - a step-brother or sister
 - adopted child/children living in the same household.
5. By reference to geographical factors, preference will be given to children with the shortest walking distance from the school as measured by the Local Authority computer mapping system.

Should the case arise where it is not possible to distinguish priority using the criteria above, a random allocation process will be followed in accordance with the School Admissions Code (September 2021) 1.35.

Late applications will be considered in accordance with the Local Authority's Co-ordinated Scheme of Admissions.

To see the full policy for Calday Grange Grammar School, please visit: <https://calday.co.uk/key-information/policies/>

Hilbre High School

Frankby Road, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 6EQ
Academy Trust (All-ability) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 625 5996**

Email: **schooloffice@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk**

Admission number: **200**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 204, 2nd: 193, 3rd: 143**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 5 (3.972 miles)

For the school year starting September 2027, the published admissions number (PAN) for Year 7 is 200. If more than 200 applications are made, places will be offered strictly in accordance with the order of the following criteria:

1. Children Looked-After (CLA). A Child Looked-After is a child who is a) in the care of a Local Authority, b) a child who, in the view of the Local Authority appears to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or c) 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). This definition includes a 'previously Looked-After Child', which is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
2. Students' who have a brother or sister (siblings include half, adopted or step living in the same household) on roll at the school, and of statutory school age when it opens in September. Siblings **MUST** live in the same household, full time. In the case of twins, triplets, etc. all the multiples will be admitted to the school, even if this means that the Published Admissions number is exceeded.
3. Students' whose parents/legal guardians are currently teaching, administrative or support staff at Hilbre High School and have been employed for over 2 years at the time of application or less than 2 years when the member of staff has been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Students attending selected feeder schools from the Oak Trees MAT that are situated on West Wirral, to include Greasby Juniors, Great Meols and Blackhorse Hill Junior schools. This is due to the links between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 curricular and the extra-curricular offer of the Multi Academy Trust (MAT).
5. We will then take account of where your child/ward lives. The Local Authority uses a mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, to measure the distance from your home to the school gate nearest to your child/ward's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider a safe walking route as determined under Local Authority guidelines. When a child lives between two households, the home address distance will be calculated from the address where the child lives more than 50% of the time.

To see the full policy for Hilbre High School Humanities College, please visit
<https://www.hilbre.wirral.sch.uk/policies-documents-procedures>

Pensby High School

Irby Road, Heswall, Wirral, CH61 6XN
Community co-educational (all-ability) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 342 0570**

Email: **schooloffice@psf.wirral.sch.uk**

Admission number: **180**

Preferences for 2025: **1st: 176, 2nd: 170, 3rd: 155**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 5 (5.935 miles)

The Governors place importance on the operation of objective criteria which are clear and conform to statutory requirements in every respect and applications to the school will be dealt with in order according to the following criteria:

1. Children who are Looked After or previously Looked After. A Looked After Child is a child who is (i) in the care of a local authority, or (ii) 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, child arrangement or special guardianship order, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
2. 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.
3. Students who have a sibling (including half-siblings, step-siblings or foster-siblings living in the same household) on roll at the school and of statutory school when the application is made.
4. Children of **any** member of staff at the school with two years' service. This is to aid both recruitment and retention of staff.
5. The Local Authority will then take account of where your child lives. The Local Authority will give priority to those students who live nearest to the school. The Authority's computer mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, is used to measure the distance from your home to the school gate nearest to your child's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider a safe walking route.

To see the full policy for Pensby High School, please visit <https://www.pensbyhighschool.org/about-us/policies-and-procedures/>

Prenton High School for Girls

Hesketh Avenue, Prenton, Wirral, CH42 6RR
Academy, single sex (girls all-ability) aged 11 to 16

Phone: **0151 644 8113**

Email: **schooloffice@prentonhighschool.co.uk**

Admission number: **158**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 148, 2nd: 95, 3rd: 85**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 5 (3.442 miles)

Where the school is undersubscribed, it will admit all applicants. Where the school is oversubscribed, it will admit applicants in accordance the following criteria:

1. Children who are in care or formerly in care of the Local Authority as defined by the Schools Admission Code.
2. Children of staff at the school. Priority will be given where the student is the daughter of a member of staff who has been employed by the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
3. 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 of support from a senior healthcare professional (e.g. Doctor, Social Worker or Psychologist) is essential as evidence when you submit your preference form, if admittance to the school is to be made under the criterion. You need to make it clear why only this school is appropriate for your child's medical needs.
4. Students who have a sister (including half or stepsisters living in the same household) on roll at the school when the student starts school and is of statutory school age.
5. We will then consider where the child lives. Priority will be given to those children who live nearest to the school. A computer mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, is used to measure distances from your home address to the school gate nearest to your child's home, using the shortest route which may include road and/or a footpath (which is considered a safe walking route).

Tie Break: Where it remains impossible to distinguish priority between two applications using the above oversubscription criteria, priority shall be determined by the process of random allocation that shall be overseen by a person independent of the school.

Twins/Multiple Births: Where the final place is offered to one twin or multiple births, all the multiples will be admitted, even if this means going over the Published Admissions Number.

To see the full policy for Prenton High School for Girls, please visit
<https://prentonhighschool.co.uk/school-policies/>

Ridgeway High School

Noctorum Avenue, Prenton, Wirral, CH43 9EB
Foundation co-educational (all-ability) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 678 3322**

Email: **schooloffice@ridgeway.wirral.sch.uk**

Admission number: **160**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 122, 2nd: 85, 3rd: 64**

For entry in 2026, all on-time applicants were offered places

Ridgeway High School is an 11 to 16 co-educational all-ability secondary school. It is maintained by Wirral authority. As a foundation school the governing body is the admissions authority and is responsible for decisions on admissions into the school. The indicated admissions number based on net capacity is 160 for admissions in year 7 in 2027.

Where the school is undersubscribed, it will admit all applicants. Where the school is oversubscribed, it will admit applicants in accordance the following criteria:

1. Children who are looked after or were previously looked after by a local authority as defined in the Admissions Code 2021.
2. Children who have a valid medical or social reason. Supporting evidence from a doctor, social worker or a psychologist is essential if admittance to the school is to be made under the criterion for special medical or social circumstances. Such evidence must set out the specific reason/s why Ridgeway High School is the most appropriate school.
3. Pupils who have a brother or sister at the school when places are offered, including half-brothers and sisters or stepbrothers and stepsisters, living in the same household. This can include the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child is living in the same family unit.
4. Pupils living closest to the school as determined by shortest road route. We would measure the distance from home to the school gate nearest the child's home using the shortest road route unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider to be a safe walking route. All distances will be measured by the authority's computer mapping system based on Ordnance Survey maps.

To see the full policy for Ridgeway High School, please visit:
<https://www.ridgeway.wirral.sch.uk/admissions-information/>

South Wirral High School

Plymyard Avenue, Eastham, Wirral, CH62 8EH
Foundation co-educational (all-ability) aged 11 to 19

Phone: **0151 327 3213**

Email: **schooloffice@southwirral.wirral.sch.uk**

Admission number: **212**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 191, 2nd: 85, 3rd: 64**

For entry in 2026, all on-time applicants were offered places

If the school is oversubscribed the following over-subscription criteria will apply:

1. Children who are looked after or previously looked after by a Local Authority and/or children with an EHC Plan of Special Educational Needs that names South Wirral High School.
2. Children who will have a "sibling" on roll at South Wirral High School at the time of their admission. A "sibling" is defined in the notes below.
3. Staff of South Wirral High School who wish their child to come here should be given priority places.
4. Children whose "home" is closest to the nearest pedestrian gate of the school as measured by the Wirral Local Authority mapping system using the shortest walking route. "Home" is defined in the notes below.

Notes

- a) Sibling is defined as:
 - (i) A brother or sister by the same parents
 - (ii) A half or stepbrother or sister living in the same household
 - (iii) A child living in the same household as another child who is on-roll at South Wirral High School at the time of their admission.
- b) Home is the principal residence of the child or of the person who is responsible for the care of the child.
- c) 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, child arrangements or special guardianship order.

To see the full policy for South Wirral High School, please visit
<https://southwirral.wirral.sch.uk/policies/>

St Anselm's College

Manor Hill, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH43 1UQ
Single sex (boys) grammar academy aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 652 1408**

Email: **info@st-anselms.com**

Admission number: **156**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 157, 2nd: 130, 3rd: 34**

For entry in 2026, the last child offered a place was in Category 5 (Non-baptised in score order)

The criteria for admissions are that places will go to applicants who have reached the required standard in the assessment and testing procedure which consists of 3 tests in English, Mathematics and Verbal Reasoning. Boys who reached the required standard in possession of an Educational Health Care Plan will automatically be offered a place. If more than 156 boys satisfy these criteria, then places are allocated according to the following oversubscription criteria, given below:

1. Baptised Catholic Looked After and previously Looked After Boys.
2. Baptised Catholic Boys, living in the relevant area (defined as Wirral, Cheshire West and Chester and any other areas within 10 miles of the College).
3. All other Looked After and previously looked after Boys.
4. Baptised Christian, non-Catholic boys, living in the relevant area.
5. Non-baptised boys whose parents wish them to have a Catholic education.

Please note that two documents need to be completed:

- St. Anselm's College website Online Registration Form for the candidate to sit the Entrance Exam (to be submitted online together with a copy of the boy's baptismal certificate, if applicable). **Deadline Friday 31st July 2026.**
A copy of a boy's baptismal or Holy Communion certificate is required for applicants to be treated as 'Catholic' or 'Christian' in our oversubscription criteria.
- The Local Authority Wirral Parental Preference Form, to be returned to the Local Authority.

NOTES

- a) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 31st October 2026 (Y7), 1st September 2027 (Y12).
- b) A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making application to the school. A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the governing body) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

- c) Priority will be given to Boys in receipt of Targeted Free School Meals, at the time of application, in each category of the Over-subscription Criteria. Documentary proof must be provided.
- d) Baptised Catholic boy means a boy who has been baptised into the Roman Catholic Church and who can produce evidence of baptism or one who has been baptised a Christian and can demonstrate that he has subsequently been received into the Roman Catholic Church. This also applies to a boy who is a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches and will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church.
- e) If in any category there are more applicants than places available, priority will be given on the basis of rank order of performance in the assessment and testing procedures. Where 2 candidates are equally ranked in those procedures priority will be given on the basis of distance from home to the College, those living nearest to the College having priority.
- f) In-Year Applications: An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. Application should be made to Wirral Local Authority by contacting Mainstream Admissions - Email: secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk [School admissions | www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk). Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied. If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list. You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.
- g) A waiting list for boys who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admissions' criteria. Parents will be informed of their son's position on the waiting list which will not be operated for longer than the end of the Autumn Term.
- h) If an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Admissions' Appeals Panel at the College within 20 school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful. The parents must give their reasons for appealing, in writing, and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.
- i) The Governing Body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a school place where false evidence is received in relation to baptism or place of residence.
- j) The Governing Body expects that all students specifically selecting a Catholic Sixth Form education will wish to be both fully involved in the ethos and spiritual life of the College, and in achieving the aims set out in its Mission Statement.

To see the full policy for St Anselm's College, please visit: <https://st-anselms.com/admissions/admissions-policy/>

St John Plessington Catholic College

Old Chester Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 7LF
Academy co-educational (all-ability) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 645 5049**

Email: **schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com**

Admission number: **270**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 219, 2nd: 182, 3rd: 87**

For entry in 2026, all on-time applicants were offered places.

At any time where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority:

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2&3)
2. Catholic children who attend a feeder Catholic primary school, namely, Christ the King (Bromborough); Our Lady and St Edward's (Birkenhead); St Anne's (Rock Ferry); St John's (New Ferry); St Joseph's (Birkenhead); St Michael and All Angels (Woodchurch); St Peter's (Noctorum); St Werburgh's (Birkenhead). (see note 3)
3. Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
4. Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4&5)
6. Children of other Christian denominations and children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion or other religious leader. (see notes 6&7)
7. Any other children.

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order:

- (i) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in category 1 above. (see note 8)

Tie Break

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distance will be measured using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider a safe walking route, from the seed point of the child's home address to the nearest pedestrian gate of the College, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the College receiving the higher priority. In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out and supervised by a person independent of the school. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Specifying the special educational provision required for a child.

2. A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making an application to the school.

A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

3. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic.

For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the laws of the Church.

4. 'catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is His body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÜN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. "children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 7 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:

- (i) A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
- (ii) A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. 'brother or sister' includes:
 - (i) all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and
 - (ii) the child of a parent's partner where that child for whom the school place is sought lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.

9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.
10. A child's "home address" refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer, and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form ("CAF"). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.

To see the full policy for St John Plessington Catholic College, please visit
<https://www.stjohnplessington.com/admissions>

St Mary's Catholic College

Wallasey Village, Wallasey, Wirral, CH45 3LN

Voluntary-aided Academy, co-educational (all-ability) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 639 7531**

Email: **schooloffice@stmaryswallasey.com**

Admission number: **210**

Preferences for 2025: **1st: 186, 2nd: 173, 3rd: 63**

For entry in 2026, all on-time applicants were offered places.

At any time where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority:

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2&3)
2. Catholic children who attend a feeder Catholic primary school, namely, Ladymount, Our Lady of Pity, Sacred Heart, St Alban's, St Joseph's, SS Peter & Paul, Holy Cross, St Joseph's (Upton) and St Paul's; and our partner school Holy Spirit Catholic and Church of England Primary. (see note 3)
3. Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
4. Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4&5)
6. Children of other Christian denominations and children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion or other religious leader. (see notes 6&7)
7. Any other children.

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.

- (i) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in category (1) above (see note 8)
- (ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above.

Tie Break

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distance will be measured using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider a safe walking route, from the seed point of the child's home address to the nearest pedestrian gate of the College, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the College receiving the higher priority. In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out and supervised by a person independent of the school. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
2. A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making an application to the school.

A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

3. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic. For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the laws of the Church.
4. 'catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is His body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above. All members of Churches Together in England and CYTŪN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.
7. "children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:

- A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
- A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. 'brother or sister' includes:
 - (i) all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and
 - (ii) the child of a parent's partner where that child for whom the school place is sought lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.

9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.
10. A child's "home address" refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form ("CAF"). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.

To see the full policy for St Mary's Catholic College, please visit:

<https://stmaryswallasey.com/information/admissions/#:~:text=St%20Mary's%20is%20a%20Catholic,available%20to%20Wirral%20Local%20Authority>

The Birkenhead Park School

A Specialist Sports College

Park Road South, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH43 4UY
Co-educational (all-ability) Academy aged 11 to 16

Phone: **0151 652 1574**

Email: **office@birkenheadparkschool.com**

Admission number: **180**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 147, 2nd: 68, 3rd: 60**

For entry in 2026, all on-time applicants were offered places.

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below:

1. Children Looked After (as defined by section 22 of The Children Act 1989) and previously Children 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, child arrangement or special guardianship order, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

2. Children with EHCP
This process is coordinated by the Wirral Local Authority SEND team. The Birkenhead Park School is consulted on whether it can meet the needs and provision outlined in the EHCP.
3. 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 of support from a senior healthcare professional is essential as evidence when you submit your preference form, if admittance to the school is to be made under the criterion. You need to make it clear why only this school is appropriate for your child's medical needs.
4. Siblings - Children who have a brother or sister (including half-brothers or sisters, or step brothers or step sisters, living in the same household) on roll at the school when the student starts school and is of statutory school age.
5. Distance - We will then take into account where the child lives. Priority will be given to those children who live nearest to the school. A computer mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, to measure distances from your home to the school gate nearest to your child's home, using the shortest road route unless it is possible to use a footpath which is considered a safe walking route.
6. Where the final place is offered to one twin or multiple births, all the multiples will be admitted, even if this means going over the Published Admissions number.

To see the full policy for The Birkenhead Park School, please visit:
<https://birkenheadparkschool.com/about/policies>

The Co-op Academy Bebington

Higher Bebington Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 2PS
Academy, co-educational (all-ability) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 645 4154**

Email: **bebi-school.office@coopacademies.co.uk**

Admission number: **205**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 241, 2nd: 173, 3rd: 94**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 4* (2.413 miles).

If more than 205 applications are made, places will be offered strictly in accordance with the order of the following criteria:

1. Children Looked-After - CLA : A Child Looked-After is a child who is a) in the care of a Local Authority, b) a child who, in the view of the Local Authority appears to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or c) 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). This definition includes a 'previously Looked-After Child', which is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
2. Students' who have a brother or sister (siblings include half, adopted or step living in the same household) on roll at the school, and of statutory school age when it opens in September. Siblings **MUST** live in the same household, full time. In the case of twins, triplets, etc. all the multiples will be admitted to the school, even if this means that the Published Admissions number is exceeded
3. Students' residence: Places will be allocated on the basis of distance of permanent residence. The Local Authority uses a mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps to measure the distance from home to the school gate nearest to the student's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath, which is considered a safe walking route as determined under Local Authority guidelines. When a student lives between two households, the home address will be calculated from the address where the student lives more than 50% of the time

To see the full policy for The Co-op Academy Bebington, please visit
<https://www.bebington.coopacademies.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=33>

* This relates to a previous admissions policy that was in effect for pupils admitted in September 2026. To view previous admissions policies, please contact the school admissions team or visit the school website.

The Co-op Academy Oldershaw

Valkyrie Road, Wallasey, Wirral, CH45 4RJ
Co-educational (all-ability) Academy aged 11 to 19

Phone: **0151 638 2800**

Email: **oldershaw@coopacademies.co.uk**

Admission number: **168**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 116, 2nd: 71, 3rd: 39**

For entry in 2026, all on-time applicants were offered places.

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with EHCPs naming the school, priority for admission will be dealt with in order according to the following criteria:-

1. **Children who are Looked After or previously Looked After.** A Looked After child is a child who is i) in the care of a local authority, or ii) 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, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
2. **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.
3. **Students who have a sibling** (including half-sibling or step-sibling living in the same household) who is on roll at the school at the start of the academic year September 2027.
4. **Children of staff at the school** – priority is given to children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances: Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made and/or ii. the applicant is the child of a member of staff who is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
5. **Distance from the school** – We will give priority to those students who live nearest to the school. The Authority's computer mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, is used to measure the distance from your home to the school gate nearest to your child's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider a safe walking route.

To see the full policy for The Oldershaw School, please visit:

<https://www.oldershawschool.co.uk/about-us/policies/>

The Mosslands School

Mosslands Drive, Wallasey, Wirral, CH45 8PJ
Community single sex (boys all-ability) aged 11 to 18
Mixed Sixth Form

Phone: **0151 638 8131**

Email: **admin@mosslands.wirral.sch.uk**

Admission number: **224**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 149, 2nd: 79, 3rd: 41**

For entry in 2026, all on-time applicants were offered places.

If the school is oversubscribed the following over-subscription criteria will apply:

1. Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children. 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, child arrangements or special guardianship order, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
2. 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.
3. Pupils who have a brother or sister (including half-brothers and sisters or step brothers and step sisters living in the same household) on roll at the school and of statutory school age when it opens in September.
4. We will then take account of where your child lives. We will give priority to those pupils who live nearest to the school. We use a computer mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, to measure the distance from your home to the nearest school pedestrian gate to your child's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider a safe walking route. As a general guide we will treat routes with no pavements and no street lighting as unsafe for children.

To see the full policy for The Mosslands School, please visit
<https://www.mosslands.co.uk/page/?title=Policies+and+Reports&pid=247>

Upton Hall School FCJ

Moreton Road, Upton, Wirral, CH49 6LJ
Academy single-sex (girls) grammar aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 677 7696**

Email: **uhs@uptonhall.org**

Admission number: **156**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 167, 2nd: 114, 3rd: 23**

For entry in 2026, the last child offered a place was in Category 6 (Non-Catholic in score order)

Of the girls who meet the required standard, 156 places will be offered strictly in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out below:

1. Applicants who are looked after, previously looked after and those who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care as a result of being adopted (or who became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order).
2. Baptised Roman Catholic girls (including any girl who was baptised a Christian and can demonstrate that she has subsequently been admitted to the Roman Catholic Church) who are eligible for targeted free school meals at the time of application.
3. Baptised Roman Catholic girls (including any girl who was baptised a Christian and can demonstrate that she has subsequently been admitted to the Roman Catholic Church).
4. Children of school staff where the member of staff has been employed by the school for two or more years.
5. Girls, who have not been baptised into the Roman Catholic Church, whose parents wish them to have a Roman Catholic education and who are eligible for targeted free school meals at the time of application.
6. Girls, who have not been baptised into the Roman Catholic Church, whose parents wish them to have a Roman Catholic education.

In the event of oversubscription in any of the above categories, places will be allocated in order of merit based on the score in the examination. If there are several candidates with the same total score (i.e. have the same examination ranking), priority will be given to those girls whose homes are nearest the school (see note 'c').

Notes:

- a. All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 31 October 2026.
- b. A Baptised Roman Catholic girl means a girl who has been baptised into the Roman Catholic Church prior to application to sit the Entrance Examination and who can produce a baptismal certificate.
- c. Nearest to the School means the shortest available safe walking distance as measured by the Local Authority computer mapping system.
- d. Targeted free school meals eligibility must be detailed on the online preference and will be verified by the Local Authority.
- e. Home means the home address of the child (for children who are resident with both parents this means the home address of the parent with whom the child spends more than 50% of the week).
- f. There are clear published dates by which applications and evidence of SEN (available in the arrangements for admission to Upton Hall School document) must be submitted for

candidates to sit the Entrance Examination for Year 7 Admission the following September. This is necessary because of the volume of administrative work which takes place. Candidates whose applications or SEN evidence is received after the published deadline will be offered a date in November to sit the Entrance Examination. These applications will be treated in accordance with the Local Authority procedure as they allocate secondary places. Detail of this can be found on their website <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/secondary-education-information-parents>

To see the full policy for Upton Hall School (FCJ), please visit:
<https://www.uptonhallschool.co.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=7>

Weatherhead High School

A high performing Academy providing excellence for all

Breck Road, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 3HS

Academy single-sex (girls all-ability) aged 11 to 16 and Mixed 6th Form

Phone: **0151 631 4400**

Email: **schooloffice@weatherheadhigh.co.uk**

Admission number: **254**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 279, 2nd: 91, 3rd: 41**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 5 (2.337 miles)

If the school is oversubscribed the following over-subscription criteria will apply:

1. Children who are Looked After or previously Looked After. A Looked After child is a child who is i) in the care of a Local Authority, or ii) 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, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted or became subject to child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
2. 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.
3. Students who have a sibling (including half-sibling or step-sibling living in the same household) on roll at the school when it opens in September 2027.
4. Children of staff at the school – priority is given to children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:-
 - i. Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made
 - and/or
 - ii. The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
5. We will then take account of where your child lives. We will give priority to those students who live nearest to the school. The Authority's computer mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, is used to measure the distance from your home to the school gate nearest to your child's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider a safe walking route.

To see the full policy for Weatherhead High School, please visit <https://weatherheadhigh.co.uk/school-information/policies-procedures/>

West Kirby Grammar School

Graham Road, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 5DP
Academy grammar single-sex (girls) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 632 3449**

Email: **office@wkgs.net**

Admission number: **180**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 173, 2nd: 140, 3rd: 49**

For entry in September 2026, the last pupil offered a place under Category 6 (distance) lived 6.095 miles from the school. The last pupil offered a place under Category 7 (standardised score) achieved a score of 238

Places will be offered to students who have been deemed to be of suitable ability according to the Wirral Consortium Assessment Procedures. When the school is oversubscribed by girls who have met the qualifying standard, priority for admission will be given in accordance with the oversubscription criteria below.

1. A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A Looked After Child is a child who is a) in the care of the 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).
2. 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.
3. Up to 18 places for children on Targeted Free School Meals at the time of application 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.
4. To those students who have a sibling* at the school at the time of application.
5. Children of staff at the school. Priority will be given where the student, having achieved the required pass mark, is the daughter of a member of staff who has been employed by the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
6. Once the above criteria has been applied, 60% of the remaining places will be allocated to students based on geographical factors, that is distance from the home address to West Kirby Grammar School. Distances will be measured from the home to the School gate nearest to the child's home using the shortest road route unless it is possible to use a footpath which is considered by the school to be a safe walking route.
7. The remainder of the places will be allocated to students based on their standardised score with students ranked from highest to lowest. The standardised score is the score after the adjustments made using conversion tables to take account of each child's exact age in years and months with the two test scores added together.

* siblings are defined as either i. a child by the same parents, or ii. A half, adopted or step-child living in the same household

To see the full policy for West Kirby Grammar School, please visit <https://wkgs.org/joining-us/admissions-year-7>

Wirral Grammar School for Boys

Cross Lane, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 3AQ
Academy grammar single-sex (boys) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 644 0908**

Email: **schooloffice@wirralgrammarboys.com**

Admission number: **170**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 193, 2nd: 144, 3rd: 73**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 5 (9.211 miles)

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

1. Up to 30 places for Looked After Children and/or Previously Looked After Children* in care outside of England, or Children with Students or Service Premium with a score at and above the eligible score or, up to 5 marks below the eligible score.
2. 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.
3. Siblings. Siblings include step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently at the same address, who attend the school at the time of application.
4. Children of Staff. Staff must have been employed by the School for a minimum of two years or have been recently employed to a post with a demonstrable skills shortage.
5. 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.

To see the full policy for Wirral Grammar School for Boys, please visit:

<https://www.wirralgrammarboys.com/moving-into-year-7/>

Wirral Grammar School for Girls

Heath Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 3AF
Academy grammar single-sex (girls) aged 11 to 18

Phone: **0151 644 8282**

Email: **schooloffice@wirralgirls.co.uk**

Admission number: **180**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 203, 2nd: 111, 3rd: 71**

For entry in 2026, the last pupil offered a place was in Category 6 (7.754 miles).

Places will be offered to students who have been deemed to be of suitable ability according to the Wirral Consortium's Assessment Procedures. When the school is oversubscribed by girls who have met the qualifying standard, after the admission of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans naming the school, priority for admission will be given in accordance with the oversubscription criteria below.

1. 'Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children' (CLA). 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 (as defined in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Previously Looked After Children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order (as defined in Section 14A of the Children Act 1989). This category includes children who have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society¹.
2. To those girls 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.
3. Up to 15 places for girls eligible for Targeted Free school Meals at the time of application in rank order of distance from the school². Details must be given on the preference form and will be verified by Wirral Local Authority.
4. To those girls who have a sister³ (sibling) attending the school at the time of application with a reasonable expectation that they will be attending at the same time of the start of the new academic year.
5. Daughter of members of staff employed by the school provided that they have been employed for a minimum of two years and/or are recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.
6. Distance from the home address to Wirral Grammar School for Girls. Distances will be measured from the home to the school gate nearest to the child's home using the shortest road route unless it is possible to use a footpath which is considered by the school to be a safe walking route. (For further information, please refer to the [Co-ordinated Scheme for Secondary Schools, Section 1.6](#))

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

In the unlikely event of a tie-breaker situation, the applicant will be chosen by random allocation. A representative of the applicants will be invited to observe the procedure which would be supervised by a person independent of the school.

¹ Applications in this category may need to be supported by documentary evidence confirming the child's status, such as a signed letter from the child's social worker or former social worker confirming their current or previous status, an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order. In the case of children adopted from state care outside England (as defined above), evidence of having been in state care outside England and of being adopted will be required. This must be received by the application deadline in the normal admission round. When assessing the evidence provided, the DfE's statutory guidance will be followed. Where the Virtual School Head has already verified the child's status, parents should let the Local Authority/school know, as there should be no need for further evidence to be provided in this case.

² Distances will be measured from the home to the school gate nearest to the child's home using the shortest road route unless it is possible to use a footpath which is considered by the school to be a safe walking route.

³ Sister is defined as either (i) a sister by the same parents or (ii) a half or step-sister living in the same household.

To see the full policy for Wirral Grammar School for Girls, please visit:
<https://www.wirralgirls.co.uk/about-us/policies-procedures/>

Woodchurch High School

Carr Bridge Road, Woodchurch, Wirral, CH49 7NG
Academy co-educational (all-ability) aged 11 to 16

Phone: **0151 677 5257**

Email: **schooloffice@woodchurchhigh.com**

Admission number: **281**

Preferences for 2026: **1st: 276, 2nd: 196, 3rd: 145**

In 2026 the last child offered a place was in Category 5 (3.48 miles)

Applications will be dealt with in order according to the following criteria:

1. Children who are in the care of or looked after by the Local Authority (this includes children who have been looked after or were in care overseas). This also includes children who have previously been in care but have been adopted or are subject to a residency order or special guardianship order.
2. Children who have an exceptional and valid medical or social reason for a specific placement. This criterion is NOT about educational needs. Parents / carers 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 and/or an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan). The letter and/or EHCP is usually written following a professional medical examination of the child concerned by a health care professional, and not based simply upon an interview with the parents/carers. It needs to be made it clear why only this school is appropriate for your child's medical needs. It is the Local Authority, acting on behalf of the school, who then make the judgement whether a child fulfils this admission criteria. Due to the high level of intervention and support these pupils require, the LA will already be aware of the child's needs from the primary phase, as these are 'high tariff pupils'. These pupils are allocated by the LA to schools following discussions concerning the capacity of the school to meet specific children's need. Please note, an IHCP (Individual Health Care Plan), a PFA (Pupil Funding Agreement) or a Pupil Profile does not automatically qualify under this criterion. Please also note, this criterion is about the child's needs, not the needs or requirements of parents / carers, such as if their physical needs makes it more difficult to transport their child to a school that is further away.
3. Children of UK Service Personnel and/or Crown Servants returning from overseas to live in the area. Places for these children will be allocated in advance if accompanied by an official letter with a relocation date and/or a Unit postal address or quartering postal address as per Section 2.18 of the School Admissions Code of Practice, published in February 2012. These pupils should also be admitted post-allocation, even if that takes the school above its planned admissions number.
4. Pupils who have a brother or sister (including half-brothers and sisters or step brothers and step sisters living in the same household. Sibling also includes adoptive siblings and children under the same guardianship of the same parents, living at the same address) on roll at the school and of statutory school age when the child joins the school in the subsequent September. If there are more children with older brothers or sisters at the school than there are places available, we will give priority to children as the distance criterion, as set out below. NB, the school has never been in a position where the entry of siblings has also been dependent upon distance from school as, to date, there have always been enough places to accommodate siblings. Please also see the information regarding 'Late Applications' below. If a child is refused a place at the school and they have an existing sibling on roll, it is more than likely the application has been treated as late by the Local Authority. For clarity, children who

have had siblings at school, who are not or will not be on roll when they are “due” to join in September do NOT qualify under this criterion. Thus, the siblings criterion is not and never has been “historic”.

5. We will then take account of where your child lives. We will give priority to those children who live nearest to the school. The Local Authority use a mapping system, based on Ordnance Survey maps, to measure the distance from your home to the school gate nearest to your child’s home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which they (that is, Wirral Council) consider a safe walking route. This distance is calculated using the Authority’s electronic Ordnance Survey address point-based routing system.

NB, In the case of twins, triplets etc., all the multiples will be admitted to the school, even if this means that the Published Admissions number is exceeded.

To see the full policy for Woodchurch High School, please visit: <https://woodchurchhigh.com/policies/>

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