

Birmingham Grammar School Consortium

All applicants must complete two forms: the Local Authority Preference form and an 11+ test registration (<https://www.birminghamgrammarschools.org/apply-onlineapp.php>). The Local Authority Preference form, which is available from your child's current school, should be returned at the latest by 31st October 2023.

There are eight Grammar Schools in the Birmingham Consortium. They are extremely popular and entry is very competitive and so not every child achieving the qualifying score will be offered a place.

- Bishop Vesey's Grammar School
- King Edward VI Aston School
- King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys
- King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls
- King Edward VI Five Ways School
- King Edward VI Handsworth School
- Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls
- Handsworth Grammar School

The test is two separate booklets GL Assessment, each one covering verbal, non-verbal and spatial reasoning skills, English and mathematics. Both tests are timed and all questions are multiple choice; children record their answers on a separate answer sheet. The scores for each section are standardised to take into account differences in age, meaning younger children are not disadvantaged compared to children in the same cohort who could be almost a year older.

Birmingham City Council

Tel: 0121 303 1888

Email: admissions@birmingham.gov.uk

Grammar Schools in Birmingham Consortium

Tel: 0121 415 6004

Admissions Timetable (2024 entry)

9 May 2023	Registration opens	You can register your child for the 11+ test from this date. You will receive an email immediately after submitting your registration to confirm it has been successful. Following registration, you will be sent a further email within 15 days advising you of the venue of the test.
14 June 2023	Reasonable adjustments deadline	This is the deadline for requesting reasonable adjustments are made to allow your child to access the paper, if for example they have a disability. Requests for adjustments must be submitted by this date along with all relevant evidence. Contact the Admissions office to request the relevant form.
30 June 2023 4pm	Registration deadline	4pm is the deadline for registering for the 11+ test. It is not possible to register for the test after this time.
beginning of September 2023	Test information	In early September you will be sent information about the test and procedure for the day of the test. This will be posted to your home address. If you have not received this by 9 September, contact the Admissions office. Do not contact the office before 9 September.
16 September 2023	11+ test	Your child sits the 11+ test on this date. It is likely that two sessions will be held (AM and PM). Your child will be allocated a session and you should therefore keep the whole day free from commitments.
21 October 2023	Results	The 11+ test results will be sent prior to you completing your Local Authority preference form - <i>Note this is not the offer of a place.</i>
31 October 2023	Preference form deadline	You must have applied for school places via your local authority by this date. You are advised to wait for the 11+ test results before applying for school places.

1 March School offer 1 March or next working day is the national date for local authorities to notify parents which school their child has been offered.

SCHOOL	GENDER	PAN 2022 (Published Admission Number)	OPEN EVENTS
Bishop Vesey's Grammar School Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, B74 2NH 0121 250 5400	Boys	192	TBC, please ring school
King Edward VI Aston School Frederick Road, Aston Birmingham, B6 6DJ 0121 327 1130 enquiry@keaston.bham.sch.uk	Boys	140	TBC, please ring school
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys Vicarage Road, Kings Heath Birmingham, B14 7QJ 0121 444 3188 enquiry@camphillboys.bham.sch.uk	Boys	150	TBC, please ring school
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys Grove Lane, Birmingham, West Midlands, B21 9ET 0121 554 2794	Boys	150	TBC, please ring school
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls Vicarage Road, Kings Heath Birmingham, B14 7QJ 0121 444 2150 head@kechg.org.uk	Girls	150	TBC, please ring school
King Edward VI Five Ways School Scotland Lane, Bartley Green Birmingham, B32 4BT 0121 475 3535 office@kefw.org	Mixed	180	TBC, please ring school
King Edward VI Handsworth School Rose Hill Road, Birmingham, B21 9AR 0121 554 2342 office@kingedwardvi.bham.sch.uk	Girls	192	TBC, please ring school
Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield Birmingham, B73 5PT 0121 354 1479 enquiry@suttcold.bham.sch.uk	Girls	180	TBC, please ring school

Walsall, Wolverhampton, Shropshire and Warwickshire Grammar Schools

This year a new partnership, known as ‘**West Midlands Grammar Schools**’, will incorporate all Birmingham, Shropshire, Walsall, Warwickshire, and Wolverhampton grammar schools. For September 2024 entry there will **one** test for all children, reducing stress for candidates and ultimately supporting children’s well-being and positive mental health. This **one** selective school entrance test will take place across the West Midlands Grammar School partnership on the same day – 16th September 2023, or within an agreed testing window on Monday 18th September, (certain schools only). With parental consent, candidates’ tests scores can be shared between all schools within the partnership. There will be no need for any child to sit multiple tests over different weekends. This change applies to the following schools:

- Queen Mary’s High School
- Queen Mary’s Grammar School
- Newport Girls’ High School
- Wolverhampton Girls’ High School
- Haberdashers’ Adams
- King Edward VI School Stratford
- Lawrence Sherriff School
- Stratford Girls Grammar School
- Rugby High School
- Alcester Grammar School

The Test comprises two papers, which assess Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numerical Reasoning provided by GL Assessments. Normally, each test paper is approx. 50 minutes in length. School administration for each test will normally be one-hour. Candidates are given a short break between the papers. Questions are included in question booklets. Candidates **MUST** write answers on the separate answer sheets provided.

Parents **MUST** register with both the school and their Local Authority if they wish their child to be admitted to one of the grammar schools above. This will be by an online form, and details of the form and how to access it will be provided by the School from early May 2023.

Admissions Timetable (2024 entry)

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1 March 2024	School offer	1 March or next working day is the national date for local authorities to notify parents which school their child has been offered.

SCHOOL	GENDER	PAN 2022 (Published Admission Number)	OPEN EVENTS
Adams Grammar School High Street, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 7BD Tel: 01952 953810	Boys	135 places, up to 15 boarder places in Year 7	TBC, please ring school
Newport Girls' High School Wellington Road Newport, Shropshire, TF10 7HL Tel: 01952 797550	Girls	84 places in Year 7	TBC, please ring school
Wolverhampton High School for Girls Tettenhall Road Wolverhampton West Midlands, WV6 0BY Tel: 01902 551515	Girls	180 places in Year 7	TBC, please ring school
Queen Mary's Grammar School Sutton Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2PG Tel: 01922 720696	Boys	180 places in Year 7	TBC, please ring school
Queen Mary's High School Upper Forster Street Walsall West Midlands, WS4 2AE Tel: 01922 721013	Girls	150 places in Year 7	TBC, please ring school

Admissions Criteria for King Edwards VI Schools

Applicants are required to sit an 11+ test and must achieve the qualifying score in order to be eligible for admission to the school. Where the number of eligible applications for admission exceeds the number of places available at the school, places are offered as follows:

1. Looked After Children / Previously Looked After Children who achieve the qualifying score. Applicants in this category will be ranked by test score and then by distance from the school.
2. Children attracting the Pupil Premium who achieve the qualifying score and live within the school catchment area*. Applicants in this category will be ranked by distance from the school.
3. If fewer than 45 places (25% of the PAN) are filled by applicants in category 2, offers will be made to children attracting the Pupil Premium who achieve the qualifying score and live outside the catchment area, until a total of 45 children attracting the Pupil Premium have been offered. If 45 or more places are filled by applicants in category 2, there will be no offers made from this category. Applicants in this category will be ranked by test score and then by distance from the school.
4. Applicants who achieve the priority score (220) and live within the school catchment area*. Applicants in this category will be given priority if they have an older sibling at the school; then ranked by distance from the school.
5. Applicants achieving the qualifying score. Applicants in this category will be ranked by test score. Where scores are equal, priority will be given to those with a sibling at the school; then ranked by distance from the school.

Notes:

A Looked After Child is a child who is in the care of a local authority or is being provided with accommodation by a local authority as set out in S22(1) of the Children Act 1989.

*Children attracting **Pupil Premium** are those who have been registered for free school meals (not universal infant free school meals) at any point in the 6 years prior to the closing date for test registration.*

What are the changes?

The aim is to improve accessibility for disadvantaged students; to ensure that there is priority for local children; and to provide a more consistent approach across our growing family of selective schools.

Accessibility

We will increase the percentage of places set aside for children eligible for the Pupil Premium (PP) from 20% to 25%. In addition, by creating new priority catchment areas, we will ensure that **all** children eligible for the Pupil Premium who achieve a standard qualifying score (expected to be 205) and who live in the catchment area will be able to attend their local selective school if they want. A map of the proposed catchment areas for each school is available to view on our website. Parents can check which ward they live in by visiting www.birmingham.gov.uk/wardlookup

Locality

We will give priority to children who achieve a higher score and who live in the catchment area of their local selective school. Remaining places will then be made available to those with lower scores and / or living further away. All children must achieve the standard qualifying score in order to be admitted to any of the selective schools. We believe that a positive consequence of these changes will be a reduction in overall travel times to school.

Consistency

Over recent years, the "cut-off" scores required for entry into the selective schools have diverged. We will establish a single set of admissions criteria that will apply across our selective schools. We believe that all of our schools offer an excellent education and a wide range of opportunities for high-attaining children regardless of background.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I find out if I am in a catchment area and which one I am in?

Maps of our catchment areas can be viewed on our website. You can enter your post code at www.birmingham.gov.uk/wardlookup and the ward you live in will be shown. You can then compare this ward to our maps to find out if you live in a catchment area and to identify your local selective school.

How do I find out more about the 11+ test?

Please visit www.birminghamgrammarschools.org for more information on the test and what to expect. Applicants will still be required to sit an 11+ test. The test is not changing.

How will places be offered?

Please view our explanatory presentation for information on how places will be offered. This can be found at <https://prezi.com/view/tA3jm0XY2HsiYlrYGK7q/>

What does this mean in practice?

Those children who live in a selective school's catchment area will have a greater chance of being offered a place at that school, provided that they meet the qualifying (Pupil Premium) or priority (non Pupil-Premium) score. These scores will be consistent across all of the selective schools. Those pupils living outside of the catchment areas will still be able to apply for the remaining places. Their chances of successfully receiving an offer will be determined by their score in the 11+ test.

What if I don't want to apply to the school that serves my catchment area?

As now, parents may express a preference for any of the selective schools. They merely give a higher priority to applicants who live in a school's catchment area.

Why are you doing this? The current system worked perfectly well.

In recent years, the current system has led to increased divergence in the cut-off scores for the different schools. In many cases, children travel long distances to school. The current system of pure ranking is used by a minority of selective schools across the country, usually by those that are not part of a selective area or a family of schools. Most selective schools use a combination of a "pass" score with distance or a catchment area.

How did you decide on the catchment areas?

The catchment areas have been designed to ensure that there is a strong chance that children living within them would be offered a place at the catchment area school, provided that they meet the qualifying (Pupil Premium) or priority (non Pupil Premium) score. This is based on application patterns over recent years.

I don't live in any of the catchment areas. Can I still apply?

We welcome applications from children outside of the catchment areas. As now, parents, wherever they live, may express a preference for any of the selective schools and an offer will depend on their child's score. Based on previous application patterns, we do not expect that the available places will all be filled by children living in the catchment areas.

What about siblings?

Under the current admissions criteria, there is no priority given for siblings. The new proposals give priority for siblings in some situations, for example where scores are equal among children applying from outside the catchment area.

Why are you increasing the pupil premium cohort at the selective schools?

We believe that selective schools should be accessible to all, regardless of background. By increasing the percentage of places available to 25%, we will provide a consistent approach across all the selective schools. In addition, by providing greater access to those living in the catchment area, we aim to build on the productive links that have been established between the selective schools and local primary schools.

	2022 intake Admission Number	2023 intake Admission Number	2022 intake Qualifying Score	2023 intake Qualifying Score	2022 intake Priority Score	2023 intake Priority Score
Bishop Vesey's Grammar School	192	192	205	205	N/A	N/A
King Edward VI Aston School	140	140	205	205	224	224
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys	150	150	205	205	224	224
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls	150	150	205	205	224	224
King Edward VI Five Ways School	180	180	205	205	224	224
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys	150	150	205	205	224	224
King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls	192	192	205	205	224	224
Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls	180	180	205	205	N/A	N/A