



# Secondary

## Secondary Education in Wirral 2019/20

Information for parents



Apply online at  
[www.wirral.gov.uk/  
schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

If you need to contact Wirral Council, but don't speak English, you can phone the call centre on (0151) 606 2020 or visit one of our One Stop Shops, where help is available. Just tell us which language you speak, and we can provide an interpreter on the phone.

إذا لديك الرغبة في الاتصال على مجلس ویرال Wirral ولكن لا تتكلم اللغة الانجليزية يمكنك الاتصال تلفونياً على مركزنا للاتصالات على الرقم 606 2020 (0151) أو الذهاب الى وحددة الخدمات المتعددة حيث تتوفر المساعدة . فقط اخبرنا ما هي اللغة التي نتحدثها ويمكننا توفير مترجم عبر التلفون.	(Arabic)
আপনি যদি উইরাল কাউন্সিলের সংগে যোগাযোগ করতে চান কিন্তু ইংরেজীতে কথা বলেন না, তাহলে আমাদের আমাদের কল সেন্টারে (0151) 606 2020 ফোন করুন বা ওয়ান-স্টপ-শপ ভিজিট করুন যেখানে সাহায্য পাওয়া যায়। আপনি কোন ভাষায় কথা বলেন তা আমাদের জানান আর আমরা ফোনে একজন দোভাষীর ব্যবস্থা করব।	(Bengali)
如果您需要聯絡偉盧鎮議會，但不會說英語，您可以到其中一間「一站店」或致電「傳訊中心」（0151606 2020）求助，那裏的職員便會幫助您。您只需要告知我們您所說的語文，我們便會為您提供電話翻譯服務。	(Chinese)
Má tá ort dul i gteagmháil le Comhairle Wirral agus ní labhraíonn tú Béarla, is féidir leat glaoch a chur ar an lárionad glaonna ar (0151) 606 2020 nó cuairt a thabhairt ar an ionad ilfhreastail, áit ar féidir cuidiú a fháil. Níl le déanamh ach le hinsint dúinn cén teanga a labhraíonn tú agus is féidir linn ateangaire a sholáthar duit ar an ghuthán.	(Gaelic)
यदि आपको विरल कौंसिल के साथ सम्पर्क करने की आवश्यकता है, परंतु आप अंग्रेज़ी नहीं बोलते तो आप इस नम्बर पर (०१५१) ६०६ २०२० पर काल सेंटर में टैलीफोन कर सकते हैं या हमारी किसी भी वॉन स्टाप शाप में जा सकते हैं, यहाँ मदद उपलब्ध है। हमें केवल यह बताएँ कि आप कौन सी भाषा बोलते हैं, हम टैलीफोन पर अनुवादिक की सेवा प्रदान कर सकते हैं।	(Hindi)
Jeśli chcą Państwo skontaktować się z Radą Miejską Wirral, ale nie władają Państwo językiem angielskim, prosimy zadzwonić do biura obsługi klienta pod numer telefonu (0151) 606 2020 lub odwiedzić jeden z naszych ośrodków informacyjnych ( One Stop Shops), gdzie uzyskają Państwo pomoc. Wystarczy podać nazwę języka, którym Państwo się posługują, a my zapewnimy telefoniczną usługę tłumaczeniową.	(Polish)
ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਵਿਰਲ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ, ਪਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਅੰਗ੍ਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਤਾਂ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ (0151) 606 2020 ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਸੈਂਟਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ ਜਾਂ ਸਾਡੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੱਨ ਸਟਾਪ ਸ਼ੋਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ, ਜਿੱਥੇ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਸਾਨੂੰ ਸਿਰਫ਼ ਇਹ ਦੱਸੋ ਕਿ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਕਿਹੜੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਅਸੀਂ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਤੇ ਦੁਬਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ।	(Punjabi)
Haddii aad u baahan tahay in aad Gollaha Wirral la soo xiriirto, laakiinse aadan af Ingiriiska ku hadlin, waxa aad soo wici kartaa xarruunta soo wicitaanka oo laga helo (0151) 606 2020 ama soo booqo mid ka mid ah Dukaamadayaada Hal-Mar-Joogsiga ah, halkaas oo caawinaad laga helo. Noo sheeg luqadda aad ku hadasho, waxa aan kuu keeni karnaa qof teleefoonka kuugu turjuma.	(Somali)
اگر آپ کو ویرال کونسل سے رابطہ کرنا ہو، لیکن آپ انگریزی نہیں بولتے ہیں تو، آپ کال سنٹر کو 606 2020 (0151) پر فون کر سکتے ہیں یا پھر ہمارے ون اسٹاپ شاپس پر تشریف لائیں، جہاں مدد دستیاب ہے۔ بس ہمیں بتائیں کہ آپ کون سی زبان بولتے ہیں، اور ہم آپ کو ٹیلیفون پر ترجمان فراہم کر سکتے ہیں۔	(Urdu)

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September 2018

Dear Parent

I hope that you will find this booklet helpful. It provides information about secondary education in Wirral and in particular about the arrangements for transferring to secondary school. It is available to all parents whose children are in their last year of primary education and to all parents who tell us that they are moving into the borough with children of secondary school age.

**If your child is due to transfer to secondary school in 2019 and you want to apply for a place in a school outside Wirral, you need to read this booklet carefully. We co-ordinate applications from Wirral parents for places in schools maintained by other authorities.**

This booklet is particularly important to you if your child is transferring to secondary school next September. It sets out the arrangements for allocating (offering) places in secondary schools and lists the schools for which you may express a preference. If, after reading the booklet, you would like further information or advice, please consult the headteacher of your child's current school or the Mainstream Admissions team.

**You may find that you need to consult this booklet from time to time during the year, so please keep it where you can easily refer to it.**

A separate booklet provides information about primary education and is available online at **[www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions)** or by calling **0151 606 2020**.

Finally, may I say that we are very proud of our schools. The standards of achievement are high, and the Council is committed to helping schools to maintain those standards and improve on them.

I hope that your child will settle happily into his or her new secondary school and be successful there.

Yours sincerely



Paul Boyce  
Corporate Director for Children

**Apply online at  
[www.wirral.gov.uk/  
schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions)**



**This booklet provides information about all the different types of maintained secondary schools in Wirral, other than independent schools. If you want to apply for a school place outside the Wirral area, you will need to say this on the Wirral Parental Preference Form. You can get details of schools outside the area from the relevant authority.**



## Types of school

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In terms of governing schools there are five types of school - academy, community, foundation, trust and voluntary aided. There are various differences between the different categories of school, but for admissions, the differences relate to the responsibilities of the governing bodies of the schools.

There are 27 secondary schools in Wirral. This includes five special schools, a pupil referral unit and an all-age hospital school.

Community schools are non-denominational. In other words, they are not linked to any particular faith. The governors have responsibility for the overall conduct of the school but admissions are the responsibility of the local authority.

Foundation and Trust schools are schools, usually nondenominational, where the governors are responsible for the admission arrangements. Academies are publicly funded independent schools. The academy trust is responsible for admissions. The governors of voluntary-aided schools are responsible for their own admission arrangements. You can get more information about Catholic voluntary aided schools from:

**Director of Education, Shrewsbury Diocese**

**Phone: 0151 652 9855**

**Email: [education@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:education@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)**

**Website: [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org)**

**The local authority co-ordinates preferences on behalf of all schools.**

## All-ability and grammar schools

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Wirral has all-ability (comprehensive) schools and grammar schools. The all-ability schools cater for the whole ability range and take children without assessing their ability. Grammar schools assess children's ability and admit children who have reached the required standard. The grammar school might not be able to admit all the children who achieve the standard for grammar school.

You will find a list of all the maintained and Academy secondary schools at the back of this booklet. Each school publishes a prospectus. You can ask the school for a copy. Schools also offer parents the opportunity to visit them before the preference forms are due to be returned.

## Admission arrangements introduction

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The arrangements described below apply to children born between 1 September 2007 and 31 August 2008. We will not normally offer places in community secondary schools to children born after 31 August 2008.

Places at community schools are decided by the Corporate Director for Children according to the arrangements made by the local authority and described in this booklet. Places in academy, foundation, trust and voluntary aided schools are decided by the governing bodies of those schools according to arrangements they have made after consultation. You can get details of the admission policies from the relevant school.

The governing bodies of Calday Grange Grammar School, West Kirby Grammar School, Wirral Grammar School for Boys and Wirral Grammar School for Girls have reached an agreement with the authority on how their admission procedures will work. If parents want their children to be considered for places at these schools, Wirral Local Authority will assess these children on behalf of the school. The assessments for St Anselm's College and Upton Hall School (FCJ) will be carried out by those schools.

## Admission numbers

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Each school has an admission number, which is the number of places in the year group in which children start at the school (Year 7). You will find the admission number of each school in the list at the back of this booklet. Pupils will be admitted up to a school's admission number.

## Making an application

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Wirral's online admission system can be accessed from [www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

Applying online is quick and simple to do. You will receive an automatic email so that you know your application has been received by Wirral Local Authority. On allocation day, online applicants will receive an email with their child's allocated place. The deadline for online applications to be submitted is **31 October 2018**. You can put up to three schools in the order of your preference. It is always recommended to put more than one school in your preferences in case you are not allocated your first choice.

If you want to give a preference for a school outside Wirral, you will need to include this as one of your preferences. Wirral Local Authority will tell other local authorities about parents' preferences for schools in their area by the end of November.

If you cannot apply online, you can complete the paper preference form provided. The deadline for paper applications to be returned is **31 October 2018**.

If you do not apply online or return a paper preference form, it will be assumed that you do not have a particular preference. Your child will be given a place at the nearest school with a place.

## Considering your preferences

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Once all the applications have been received, a list of applicants will be produced for each Wirral school. For community schools we will rank the applications according to our criteria, and decide whether your child is eligible for a place at any of the schools listed.

Schools where the governing body is the admission authority are provided with application information to enable them to apply their own admission criteria and rank applicants. This does not include what order you have put that school in your application, because **schools are not allowed to use the order of parents preference in their admission criteria**. They will not know whether you have put their school first, second or third.

If you have given a preference for a school in another English authority, that authority will tell us whether they can offer your child a place in that school.

If you are successful in meeting the criteria for more than one school, we will offer you the school which you listed as the highest preference.

It can happen that all the schools given as a preference by a parent are oversubscribed (in other words, there are more applications than places available) and it is not possible to offer a child a place at any of them. If this happens, your child will be given a place at the nearest appropriate school with a place available.

## Children who do not live in Wirral

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Requests from parents of children living in other authorities are considered on the same basis as described for Wirral children. For other English authorities, if you want your child to be considered for a place in a Wirral school you need to contact your Local Authority and complete an application following their procedures.

Parents who live outside England will need to apply online or complete a Wirral Parental Preference Form at the Admissions Portal, [www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions) or on request (0151 606 2020, email [secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk)).

## Reasons to refuse your preferences

The law says that the Local Authority can refuse to follow your preference if to do so 'would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources'. The quality of education for all children cannot be allowed to suffer by admitting more pupils than the school can accommodate.

If a community school is oversubscribed (more pupils apply than there are places available), the admission criteria set out below will be used to decide which children should get places. In academy, foundation, trust and voluntary aided schools, the governing bodies publish their own admission arrangements which will explain the admission criteria they use.

Even if a child has achieved the necessary standard for a grammar school, the admissions authority may still refuse to give your child a place. This will happen if the school is oversubscribed and there would be prejudice of the kind referred to in the paragraph above.

If you include a grammar school as one of your preferences and your child has not reached the standard for grammar school, the grammar school preference cannot be taken into account and will be disregarded.

## Important information about preferences

Most school places are allocated on the basis of the home address of each child. This must be the child's permanent home address, where he or she lives with a person of parental responsibility as the main carer (as defined by the Children Act 1989). You must not give the address of a business, relative, childminder, friend, a temporary address or an address to which you hope to move.

The home address must not be where parents have taken out a short term let on a property solely to use its address on the application form without any intention of taking up permanent residence there. We will require evidence that the previous property has been sold.

We can only process one application for each child; therefore it is important that both parties in shared custody arrangements are in agreement over the preferred school(s) named. Where a child spends equal time with both parents, the child's main residence should be submitted as their home address. Failure to provide a definitive application could jeopardise your child's priority for a school place.

We regularly check addresses and any deliberate misrepresentation will result in a place being withdrawn by the Authority. The LA acts on behalf of all Wirral admission authorities and reserves the right to request independent confirmation of the child's place of residence, as felt appropriate.

We may have to share the information you have provided on your parental preference form with other departments of the Council in order to verify the authenticity of pupils' addresses.

Wirral Council processes personal admissions data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Schools Admissions Regulation 2012. The information you provide on your preference form will be used by Wirral Local Authority and Governing bodies of primary/secondary schools as Admission Authorities. They will apply the information to their published admission policies in order to allocate school places for children. Where there is a need to co-ordinate admission arrangements with neighbouring local authorities, pupil data may also be shared to ensure the efficient allocation of school places. Information about your child may also be shared with Members of Parliament or Councillors, if you ask them to act on your behalf.

For further information please read the School Admissions Privacy Notice (<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/apply-primary-or-secondary-school-place>). If you have any questions or concerns about how your data is secured the Council's Data Protection Officer can be contacted by email at [DPO@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:DPO@wirral.gov.uk) or by writing to: Data Protection Officer, Treasury Building, Cleveland Street, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH41 1AH.

The Admissions Authority has the right to withdraw any place offered on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application.



## Admission criteria for community schools

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Applications for community schools will be dealt with in order according to the following criteria.

- a** Children who are Looked After or previously Looked After as defined in the Admission Code 2014.
- b** 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.
- c** 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.
- d** 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.

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.

## Admissions to academy, foundation, trust and voluntary-aided schools

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The admission arrangements for these schools are decided by the governing bodies and you can get them directly from the schools concerned. Wirral Local Authority will co-ordinate the preferences for those schools and the governing body will rank their applicants against their policy.

## Admission to grammar schools

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The admission arrangements for all grammar schools say that children should be assessed to decide whether they have reached the necessary standard for grammar school. The deadline for request for assessment forms to be returned was 31 May 2018.

Wirral Local Authority will carry out the assessments for the non-denominational grammar schools. The assessments for St Anselm's College and Upton Hall School will be carried out by those schools.

If you are going to apply for a place at a grammar school your child must have reached the standard for grammar school.

If more children achieve the standard than there are places available in grammar schools, other criteria are used to decide which children should receive places. These criteria are published in the admission policy for the school.

## Assessment arrangements for non-Catholic grammar schools

The assessment is based on the results of a test comprising two papers that pupils take in September of Year 6. The tests have been designed to predict a pupil's potential performance at secondary school and so preparation for the tests is not necessary. However, familiarisation materials containing sample questions will be available to help children prepare for the tests.

To ensure that children are not disadvantaged because of their date of birth, in each case the score is age standardised to take account of each child's exact age to the day. A total weighted score is calculated from the Verbal, Maths and Non-verbal components across both papers for boys and girls. Children who reach the required score will be deemed to have reached the grammar school standard.

After the tests are marked, primary school headteachers will be provided in confidence with the scores of their pupils. Primary headteachers can provide a written referral on behalf of any children whose test results do not, in their view, reflect the child's potential. We expect these cases to be rare.

**If your child is unwell on the morning of the test, it is advised that they do not sit the test that day. They can take it at another time, when they are feeling better.**

In some cases, parents may feel that factors may have affected their child's performance. If so, you must write to your child's headteacher explaining the circumstances no later than 18 September 2018.

An Independent Assessment Board (IAB) will meet to consider children who did not reach the standard and have been referred by their primary school headteacher. The board is made up of four headteachers (two from primary schools, two from grammar schools), and is chaired by an officer from Wirral Local Authority. None of the board members will have any personal interest in any of the pupils they are asked to assess.

The IAB will only consider a child's case if it has been referred to the board by the headteacher. If your child has not been referred to the IAB by their headteacher by the deadline set by the Authority their case cannot be considered by the IAB.

For each child whose case is referred, the board will see:

- the child's test scores;
- the representations made by the primary school headteacher, with supporting evidence if necessary; and
- confidential information from you and reports from other professional agencies such as educational psychologists, social workers, doctors and so on which were provided to your child's headteacher no later than 18 September 2018.

The board then uses its professional judgement to decide whether the evidence clearly shows that the results of the tests do not truly reflect the child's ability and whether or not it is appropriate for the child to be considered for a grammar school place.

At the end of this process, we will have a complete list of the children who have reached the grammar school standard. This does not necessarily mean that they will go to a grammar school – that will depend on the number of preferences that we have for the grammar schools. If a grammar school is oversubscribed, the governors have to use other criteria to decide which children should be given places. Parents will be notified of the outcome of the assessments for their child by 21 October 2018 and should not complete an application until then.

### Late applications

Applications received by Wirral Local Authority by 31 October 2018 will be treated as on-time. Late preferences received on or after 1 November 2018 will be dealt with after places have been allocated to "on-time" applicants. Late grammar school test sessions will be held **only** for applicants who were not previously able to complete a request for assessment form for a grammar school, for example, parents who have only recently moved into the area.

## Allocation of places

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If you are a Wirral resident we will tell you which school your child has been allocated. On 1 March 2019, online applicants will receive an email with their child's allocated school place. An allocation letter will be posted out to paper form applicants on this date. **Your child's allocation cannot be emailed to you unless you have applied online.** Allocations cannot be given out over the telephone. If you have changed home address between submitting your preferences and 1 March, it is important to remember to tell us your new address, otherwise you may not receive your allocation letter. If you have applied online and have changed your email address, you must update the online account before 28 February, otherwise you may not receive your email. If you live in another English authority they will tell you where your child has been allocated. You must reply to the offer of a school place within two weeks, either by email or using the reply slip on your allocation letter.

## Appeals against admission decisions

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If you are not satisfied with an allocation you have the right to appeal. Appeals will be heard by an independent appeal panel whose decision is binding on us or the governing body of the school concerned. You should lodge your appeal within four weeks of receiving your allocation letter wherever possible.

Apart from those schools listed below, you can get appeal forms and further details of the appeals procedures from:

**The Clerk to the Independent Appeals Panel**

**Phone: 0151 606 2020**

**Email: [schoolappeals@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:schoolappeals@wirral.gov.uk)**

**Website: [www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions)**

Appeals against decisions made by the governors of Birkenhead High School Academy, Calday Grange Grammar School, St Anselm's College, St John Plessington Catholic College and Upton Hall School are made to an independent panel organised by the governors of the school. You can get more details from the headteacher of the schools concerned.

If you have applied for a place at a school outside Wirral and wish to appeal the decision not to allocate a place, you should contact the relevant local authority for information on their appeals procedures.

## Waiting lists for community schools

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- If places become available at schools we will re-allocate them to children whose parents have either lodged an appeal or expressed a continuing interest in a place at the school concerned.
- If you wish to register a continuing interest in a school, then you should indicate that on the reply slip attached to your allocation letter or by email to [secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk)
- If there are more children interested in a particular school than available places, the same criteria will be used to determine priorities as used for the initial allocation.
- After all appeals have been heard we will write to parents who have a continuing interest or appealed unsuccessfully, asking if they wish their child to be added to the waiting list for a particular school.

## Autumn Term – Waiting lists for community schools

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- If places become available during the Autumn Term they will be allocated from the waiting list with priority given in accordance with the criteria used for the initial allocation.
- We will cease to hold the waiting list at the end of the Autumn Term.

**All other schools will have different arrangements for their waiting list and you should contact them directly for more information.**

## Timetable for admissions to secondary schools in September 2019

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### 31 May 2018

Deadline for Request for Assessment forms to be returned.

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### September 2018

Preference forms and information booklets on secondary education are available online or on request. The online admission system opens on 1st September for parents of Year 6 children who live in Wirral. Tests for grammar school assessments are carried out.

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### October 2018

The Independent Assessment Boards meet. Grammar school assessment outcomes are sent to parents (by 21 October).

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### 31 October 2018

Online applications and Preference forms must be returned by this date.

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### 1 March 2019

Email offers are sent to online applicants. Offers of school places for paper form applicants are posted second class on this date.

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### 15 March 2019

Reply slips or emails to be returned by this date.

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### 1 April 2019

Appeals to be submitted by this date.

## Admissions to schools in other local authority areas

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If you want your child to be educated at a school maintained by another English local authority, you must name that school as one of your preferences on the Wirral Parental Preference Form. Wirral Local Authority will then send your application to the relevant local education authority.

You will be told by Wirral Authority whether your application has been successful on 1 March 2019 as detailed above.

## Parents who live outside Wirral

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If you live *elsewhere in England* you do not complete a Wirral preference form. If you want your child to go to a Wirral school, you must name the school on your home authority's preference form and they will send your details to us. If you live in any other country, including Wales or Scotland, you must complete a Wirral preference form if you want your child to go to a Wirral school. No matter where you live, if you want your child to be assessed for a grammar school in Wirral, you must have told us by 31 May 2018.

## Transfer between schools and children moving to Wirral

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If you want your child to transfer to a Wirral school you should contact the Mainstream Admissions team as soon as possible for an application form and advice about available places.

For admissions to schools other than at the normal admission age, you can say which school you prefer and the admissions authority will meet that preference as long as it does not affect the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.

You will need to read the admission policies for the schools which are included in a separate booklet. In general it is considered less disruptive to a pupils education to transfer at the end of the school year. Before a transfer request is considered, you will be expected to have discussed this with your child's headteacher. Often a solution can be found without disrupting the education of the child.



Our arrangements are that a report will be requested from the headteacher of your child's current or previous school so that the school has necessary information to make a decision. Your child will be offered the highest preference possible. The Corporate Director for Children will write to tell you which school your child has been allocated and giving you the right to appeal to an independent panel (as detailed previously).

## Grammar assessment arrangements for children aged over 11

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If your preference is for a grammar school, your child must achieve the standard for the school and you need to contact the school concerned to find out about their assessment arrangements for children transferring in Y7 and above.

There are no arrangements to admit or transfer children to independent (private) schools. If you want a place at an independent school, you should approach the school directly.

## Fair access policy

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Local authorities have a duty to ensure fair access to educational opportunity and have a key role in ensuring that school admission arrangements are lawful and comply with the mandatory provisions of the Admissions Code 2014. They must ensure that admission arrangements for school in their area for which they are the admissions authority comply with all statutory requirements, are clear, objective and fair.

Full details of the fair access arrangements can be found in the Wirral secondary coordinated admission scheme on the Admissions Portal: [www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

## Education after age 16

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Post-16 education in Wirral is provided by sixth forms in some schools, Birkenhead Sixth Form College and Wirral Metropolitan College.

Details of sixth-form education in other Wirral schools are included in a separate booklet.

### Birkenhead Sixth Form College

Phone: 0151 652 5575

Email: [enrol@bsfc.ac.uk](mailto:enrol@bsfc.ac.uk)

Website: [www.bsfc.ac.uk](http://www.bsfc.ac.uk)

### Wirral Metropolitan College

Phone: 0151 551 7777

Email: [wmc.enquiries@wmc.ac.uk](mailto:wmc.enquiries@wmc.ac.uk)

Website: [www.wmc.ac.uk](http://www.wmc.ac.uk)

## Transport policy

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Under Section 508 (B) of the Education Act 1996 the Council must provide free transport to and from school for a child if they are aged 5 to 16 between home and their nearest suitable school under certain conditions.

A 'suitable' school for transport purposes is the nearest school to the child's home.

There is no general legislative requirement for the Council to transport pupils to the nearest school of a particular type e.g. faith school, ability (grammar or non-grammar), single sex or Mixed, academy or free school.

Assistance with public transport costs will be provided for Wirral resident pupils who qualify under the following circumstances:

- 1 Pupils are between age 5 and 16 and go to their nearest suitable school and live at least:
  - 2 miles from the school if they're under 8
  - 3 miles from the school if they're 8 or older.
- 2 Pupils are registered at their nearest suitable school and are unable to walk to school due to a route which the Council has assessed as hazardous.
- 3 Pupils are from a low income family who are entitled to free school meals or maximum Working Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit with an income below £16,190, if they are:
  - aged 8 to 11 and the school is at least 2 miles away
  - aged 11 to 16 and the school is 2 to 6 miles away – as long as there aren't 3 or more suitable schools nearer to home.
  - aged 11 to 16 and the school is 2 to 15 miles away – if it's their nearest school preferred on the grounds of religion or belief.

- 4 Children with special educational needs and/ or disabilities (SEND) are entitled to free transport however far they live from the school if:
- they have a statement of SEN or EHCP that says the local council will pay transport costs.
  - they can't walk because of their SEN, a disability or mobility problem.

The distance from home and the school gate nearest to home by the shortest available walking route will be measured using a computerised mapping system.

As a general guide, we will treat routes without pavements and street lighting as unsafe for children and young people. When assessing the safety of routes, the Authority will assume that the child is accompanied, as necessary, by a parent or other responsible person. Initial assessment of route safety is made by the team responsible for assessing eligibility for home to school transport. Where the safety of a route is questioned by an applicant, the Council's Road Safety team will carry out an assessment. If parents believe their child is entitled to receive a free travel pass based on the criteria above then they can contact:

#### **The Council Call Centre Information and Advice Team**

**0151 606 2020**

**Email: [hotdesk@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:hotdesk@wirral.gov.uk)**

## **Walking to school**

Before you decide on your school preferences, it is worth considering how your child will get to school. There is a leaflet called "How to get to secondary school". You can request a copy from the Road Safety team by calling 0151 606 2020 or emailing [streetscene@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:streetscene@wirral.gov.uk) In recent years the number of children who are driven to school has steadily increased. This contributes to traffic congestion and air pollution. Less walking and cycling to school is affecting children's health and independence. Wirral Council is committed to encouraging more children to walk or cycle to school, or catch the bus for longer distances. When deciding how your child travels to school, the following points are important to consider:

- Research has shown that children who walk to school are fitter, have better developed social skills, are more familiar with their surroundings, have better road sense and arrive at school more relaxed and ready to learn.

- Walking, cycling or using the bus reduces congestion on the road. In the school holidays, when the roads tend to be much quieter, it is clear how much rush hour traffic is school-run related.
- On average, the school-run costs families over £300 a year in petrol costs and general wear and tear.

Take some time to discuss this advice with your child and help them to plan their new route to school. The right choices can increase their self-confidence and independence whilst also helping to maintain a healthy and sustainable lifestyle. If you are interested in walking, cycling or bus use, go to [bit.ly/2aPIQ6U](https://bit.ly/2aPIQ6U) or speak to your child's school to find out if they have a travel plan or other initiatives in place.

If your child has SEND, they may be able to access Independent Travel Training (ITT). Go to [bit.ly/2aQXScZ](https://bit.ly/2aQXScZ) telephone **0151 666 4212** or email **CYPD\_transport4children@wirral.gov.uk** for further information.

## **School meals**

Wirral's secondary schools have cafeterias providing school meals with a wide variety of choice. It is the governors' responsibility to provide free and paid-for meals facilities and to meet nutritional standards. These ensure that children are provided with a healthy, balanced diet.

Free school meals are available if the parent or guardian is in receipt of Income Support OR Universal Credit OR Income-based Jobseekers Allowance OR Income Related Employment and Support Allowance OR Guaranteed State Pension Credit OR support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 OR Child Tax Credit with a total annual taxable income of LESS than £16,190 but NOT receiving Working Tax Credit. You can get more details and application forms from any Wirral One Stop Shop or telephone 0151 606 2002.

If your child will take packed lunches to school, the Children's Food Trust have produced some tips and suggestions for a healthy packed lunch.

**[www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk](http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk)**

## Financial assistance for 16 to 19 year olds

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You could get a bursary to help with education-related costs if you're aged 16 to 19 and studying at school or college (not University) or on a training course, including unpaid apprenticeship.

- There are bursaries of up to £1,200 a year for the most vulnerable young people. This includes children in care, care leavers and those on income support. Schools and colleges will have flexibility to pay more to young people who need it.
- For all other young people, schools, colleges and training providers will then be able to award bursaries to any student who faces genuine financial barriers to staying on in education and training to help with costs such as transport, food or equipment. The amount they will get is entirely down to their school or college.

You can get more information about the 16 to 19 bursary scheme from your school or college.

[www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund/overview](http://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund/overview)

## Special educational needs

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Most children with special needs are educated in mainstream schools with support provided by the school the child/young person attends. Details of each schools provision can be found on the schools information report published on the Wirral Local Offer website <http://localofferwirral.org>

Where a child or young person has SEN but does not have an EHC plan, they must be educated in a Mainstream setting (except in specific circumstances).

The local authority considers applications from parents of children who have SEN but do not have an EHC plan on the basis of the schools published admissions criteria as part of normal admissions procedures.

Under the admission policy, schools cannot refuse to admit a child with SEN purely on the basis that the child does not have an EHC plan.

Some children have special educational needs for whom the Council has to make special arrangements. Schools, the Special Education Support Service, health services and other organisations work closely to recognise and provide for children's special needs. A national policy is followed to get parents involved at all stages in assessing their child's special educational needs.

In a small number of cases, we will agree to a child receiving home tuition. This is normally following a medical recommendation. This service is only considered as a final option and only if a child cannot physically get to school. We believe that, wherever possible, a child should be educated in a school environment.

Some pupils may need to go to a special school which is not maintained by Wirral. This may be a residential school. The Local Authority does not have any residential schools, but does use several suitable local authority and independent schools mainly in nearby counties. A child's progress in this kind of school is reviewed regularly.

If you think that your child may have special educational needs, you can get advice and more information from the headteacher of your child's present school.

## Transport to special schools and classes

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Consideration for transport support is provided to children and young people who are resident on Wirral who have complex special educational needs, a disability or mobility problem as identified through the Special Educational Needs (SEN) assessment process.

Not all children with a statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) require free transport provision. Where a young person is able to access and use the public transport network safely they will be expected to do so. Where they are unable to walk because of their SEN, a disability or mobility problem they are entitled to free transport.

The assessment for eligibility for free transport will be carried out by the Council. The parents can apply for an assessment by completing a form available online at [bit.ly/2aQXScZ](https://bit.ly/2aQXScZ) or by calling **0151 666 4212**.

Following the assessment process parents will be notified of the decision regarding transport provision. Eligibility to provision will be assessed annually. The decision to provide transport is based on the student's needs. This means that Wirral Council **is not** able to take the following into account when considering home to school transport entitlement:

- Parents' work or other commitments.
- Attendance by siblings at other schools.
- If a parent chooses to send their child to a provider that is not the nearest appropriate provider to the home address.
- A journey from one educational establishment to another.
- Ad hoc visits to other schools, colleges or other establishments.
- Out of hours clubs (breakfast club, after school activities).
- To/ from dental, clinical, medical or hospital appointments.
- At a different time due to detention or exclusion.

In these instances, transport arrangements will be the sole responsibility of the student's parent or carer.

If young people are assessed as eligible for free transport the type of transport provided will be based on individual assessment of young people's needs and with regard to the best use of the Council's resources. This may be in the form of a free pass for use on public transport or transport in a contracted vehicle.

For students travelling in contracted vehicles there is no specific duty on the Council to provide passenger assistants. However, a passenger assistant may be

provided to accompany a young person with significant needs arising from a medical condition or a disability and where there is an exceptional need for care or supervision.

The decision on whether to provide a passenger assistant will be made as part of the eligibility assessment taking a number of factors into account. Such factors may include information relating, but not limited, to:

- Medical issues.
- Health and safety related issues, including risk to self or others.
- The young person's mobility.
- Any challenging behaviour arising from the young person's SEN.
- Where a passenger has severe learning or physical difficulties, the need for continual care and supervision.
- Age and capability.
- Length of journey.
- The vehicle type and size.

Transport is allocated on an annual basis and parents and carers will be involved in a discussion regarding the ongoing suitability of the existing transport arrangements during the review of the young person's statement of educational needs or EHCP.

In cases of students with high risk medical needs (who require additional funding from a number of organisations) decisions regarding transport will be informed by health, education and social care practitioners. If a child is eligible for transport, health professionals will provide recommendations based on the child's specific needs during transport to ensure safety. This will be reviewed appropriately in order to provide a responsive service.

If your child has SEND, they may be able to access Independent Travel Training (ITT). Go to [bit.ly/2aQXScZ](https://bit.ly/2aQXScZ) telephone **0151 666 4212** or email [CYPD\\_transport4children@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:CYPD_transport4children@wirral.gov.uk) for further information.



## What happens if my application is refused?

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Where an application has been made for free home to school transport under the provisions set out in the Council's policies and that application is refused, in whole or part, applicants have the right to have their case reviewed.

There is a two stage home to school transport review and appeals process for parents who wish to challenge a transport decision about:

- Their child's eligibility.
- The transport arrangements offered by the local authority.
- The distance measurement.
- The safety of the route used to calculate eligibility.

## Special Education Support Services (SESS)

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This service is made up of teams of the following:

- Educational psychologists.
- Medical/physical needs team.
- Social and communication and interaction difficulties team.
- Sensory Inclusion Service.
- Portage and Early Years Intervention Team.

The service offers assessment, advice and support for pupils who have or may have special educational needs to enable schools to maintain placement of a child who has SEN but does not have an EHC plan.

Members of the service offer advice about a pupil's educational needs to headteachers, class teachers, parents and other professional colleagues who may be involved.

**You can get further information from the heads of the above teams by contacting:**

**Phone: 0151 666 4377**

**Email: [sess@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:sess@wirral.gov.uk)**

## Wirral SEND Partnership

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The SEND Partnership Service is delivered by WIRED, a charitable organisation which is independent of the local authority and which gives neutral independent advice and support to parents whose children have special educational needs and/or disabilities. The service is flexible and aims to work in a flexible manner, parents can self refer.

They may be able to help you if:

- You think your child needs extra help at school.
- Your child is at risk of exclusion due to his/her behaviour.
- She/he has a Statement of Special Educational Needs or EHCP.
- You would like your child's needs to be formally assessed.
- You are attending a school meeting.
- You need help with understanding or completing paperwork.

**You can get further information from:**

**Wirral SEND Partnership**

**Phone: 0151 522 7990**

**Email: [contact@wired.me.uk](mailto:contact@wired.me.uk)**

**Website: [www.wired.me.uk](http://www.wired.me.uk)**

## Equal opportunities

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We believe that all people are equal, whatever their race, sex, sexual orientation, pregnant or new parent, disability, religion or belief, transgender status, marital status or age. We do our best to make sure that the services we provide, and how we employ people, do not discriminate against anyone. We encourage positive action to overcome the effects of past discrimination and remove barriers to equal access. However, we do respect the right of governing bodies of voluntary aided schools to recruit staff of a particular religion in line with the school's beliefs, and to give priority in admissions to children from that religion.

## The school curriculum

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All pupils under 16 in Wirral maintained secondary schools (but not Academies) must study the National Curriculum as part of the wider curriculum decided by individual schools.

Academy schools must follow the National Curriculum for English, maths and science, but are not obliged to include any of the other core curriculum subjects. In practice, however, there are generally only small variations between what is taught in an Academy and any other maintained school.

The National Curriculum covers the following subject areas for pupils aged 11 to 14 (Key Stage 3)

English  
Maths  
Design and Technology  
Science  
Music  
Modern Foreign Language  
Geography  
Art and Design  
History  
Physical Education  
Citizenship  
ICT

Pupils can also study extra subjects from the options available in each school. Individual schools may organise their teaching in different ways, and headteachers will be happy to discuss their own school's approach with you.

The National Curriculum for 14 to 16 year old pupils includes the following subjects (Key Stage 4)

English  
Maths  
Science  
Physical Education  
ICT  
Citizenship

Pupils are assessed at ages 14 and 16, and you can see reports on progress within the subject areas following these assessments.

## Religious education

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All pupils study religious education unless parents ask for them to be withdrawn from lessons. Religious education in Wirral is taught in community, foundation and trust schools according to an agreed syllabus. This syllabus is produced by the Wirral Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education. You can get a copy from schools or direct from us. Religious education at voluntary aided schools is the responsibility of the governing body and will be taught according to the school's trust deed.

## Sex and relationship education

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All pupils are entitled to receive sex and relationship education as part of the National Curriculum, unless parents ask for them to be withdrawn from lessons. Secondary schools must provide sex and relationship education. It must include teaching about AIDS, HIV and other sexually-transmitted infections, and be given in a way which encourages pupils to consider moral issues and the value of family life. The detailed content and nature of sex education is for school governing bodies to decide. Parents may request a copy of the school's sex and relationship policy and may choose to withdraw their children from all or part of sex education.

## Physical Education

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Physical Education is taught to all pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4. A varied programme of Physical Education is offered.

From Year 10 onwards pupils, can extend their interest in Physical Education by studying for GCSE, A Level and Junior Sports Leadership Awards.

Pupils also have the chance to get involved in Health Related Exercise programmes, reflecting a more personalised attitude to Physical Education.

The reputation of school sport in Wirral continues to be of a high standard. All pupils – whatever their age, gender or ability – are encouraged to make the best use of their talents and interests to join after-school clubs.

## Careers education

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All secondary schools must provide a programme of careers education, and an appropriate range of careers information and guidance, for pupils during Years 7 to 11. They must also give pupils at key decision-making points during their education access to careers officers. The DfE website provides statutory guidance on careers education and information in schools.

**[www.education.gov.uk/16to19/careersguidance/a0064052/the-role-of-schools-and-local-authorities-in-careers-guidance](http://www.education.gov.uk/16to19/careersguidance/a0064052/the-role-of-schools-and-local-authorities-in-careers-guidance)**

For more details, contact the school directly.

## Health Services in Schools

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Health Services in Schools provide a range of services coordinated by the school nursing service, funded by NHS Wirral and hosted by Wirral secondary schools following consultation with governing bodies, parent groups and pupils.

Each participating school has a weekly open access drop-in clinic, staffed by a professional team of nurses and youth workers. Pupils are able to speak privately about any issue relating to their health and well-being and are encouraged at all times to tell parents and carers of their visit and involve them in their concerns. Pupils will also be advised that confidentiality cannot be maintained if their safety could be affected. For more information:

**Health Promotion Strategy Manager, NHS Wirral**  
**Phone: 0151 651 0011**  
**Email: [intouch@wirral.nhs.uk](mailto:intouch@wirral.nhs.uk)**  
**Website: [www.wirral.nhs.uk](http://www.wirral.nhs.uk)**

## Music

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There are opportunities within schools for children to learn musical instruments or have voice lessons. Wirral Schools' Music Service provides tuition in some secondary schools and through music centres.

The Music Service centres for young musicians run on Saturday mornings and provide string, orchestral, wind and brass groups as well as theory and aural tuition for children of all abilities. Pupils can audition to become members of Music Service ensembles, including intermediate and senior orchestras, brass band, big band, concert band and choir. These groups regularly go

on concert tours abroad and are involved with regional and national festivals of music.

Charges are made for lessons and other activities. Financial support for Music Service lessons and activities are offered to children who are eligible for Free School Meals and families who qualify for free prescriptions. Schools will have their own remissions policies. You can get further details about tuition, music centres and ensembles from:

**Musical Routes**  
**Phone: 0151 346 6699**  
**Email: [wsms@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:wsms@wirral.gov.uk)**  
**Website: [www.musicalroutes.org.uk](http://www.musicalroutes.org.uk)**

## More about the National Curriculum

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You can get further details about the National Curriculum from **[www.direct.gov.uk/national-curriculum](http://www.direct.gov.uk/national-curriculum)**

## Educational Social Welfare Service

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Wirral Educational Social Welfare Service offers support to parents in fulfilling their legal responsibility to ensure that their children receive an appropriate education at school or otherwise.

They do this through a number of interventions which involve working with schools, families and other agencies. The strategies used include one-to-one support and group work with children and parents, tackling the sometimes complicated issues behind children not going to school. Education social workers ensure that every child receives full-time education, and try to provide support so that children can benefit from the education facilities we provide.

As well as responsibilities in relation to school attendance, the Service also has responsibilities in relation to Children Educated at Home, Traveller Children, Children Missing from Education, Child Employment and children involved in performances and entertainment. The Service also supports the safeguarding of children. You can get further information from:

**Educational Social Welfare Service**  
**Phone: 0151 666 3433**  
**Email: [mikeclarke@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:mikeclarke@wirral.gov.uk)**  
**Website: [bit.ly/2axoSfv](http://bit.ly/2axoSfv)**

## Glossary of terms used in the booklet

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### **Academy**

An Academy is a publicly funded independent school. Staff are employed by the Academy Trust, and the Trust or governing body are responsible for the admission arrangements.

### **Admissions authority**

The body that decides the order that children should be considered for places at the school. In the case of community and voluntary controlled schools it is the Local Authority; in the case of academies, foundation trusts and voluntary-aided schools, it is the governing body.

### **Admissions criteria**

When a school has more applications than places, applications are matched against a list of criteria and ranked accordingly. These criteria are agreed by the Local Authority for community schools and by the governing body for all other kinds of schools.

### **Admission number**

This is the maximum number of pupils that a school is required to admit into each year group. The number is agreed as part of a school's admission arrangements and is determined with regard to a Net Capacity Assessment (calculated on a formula from the DfE) based on the space available and use of resources. All schools must offer places up to the admission number if there is sufficient demand.

### **Community School**

A school which the Local Authority maintains from public funds. The headteacher and governing body manage the school in collaboration with the Local Authority. Staff are employed by the Local Authority, and the Local Authority is responsible for the admission arrangements.

### **DfE (Department for Education)**

The Government department with national responsibility for children's services, families, schools and 14–19 education.

### **Denominational**

Relating to a particular religion.

### **Foundation Schools**

Foundation schools are maintained by the Local Authority from public funds. The governing body employ the staff directly and own the buildings and grounds. The governors are responsible for the admission arrangements.

### **Maintained Schools**

Any school funded by the local authority. This includes community schools, voluntary aided schools (usually "church" schools), voluntary controlled schools (usually "church" schools), foundation schools and Trust schools.

### **Trust School**

A trust school is a foundation school with an additional foundation, or Trust. Trust partner(s) can appoint governors to the governing body in order to contribute their experience and ethos to the school and help raise standards in the long term. The governing body is responsible for the admission arrangements.

### **Voluntary Aided School**

Voluntary aided schools are maintained by the Local Authority from public funds. The governing body employ the staff directly. The buildings and grounds are usually owned by a religious organisation. The governors of voluntary aided schools are responsible for their own admission arrangements.

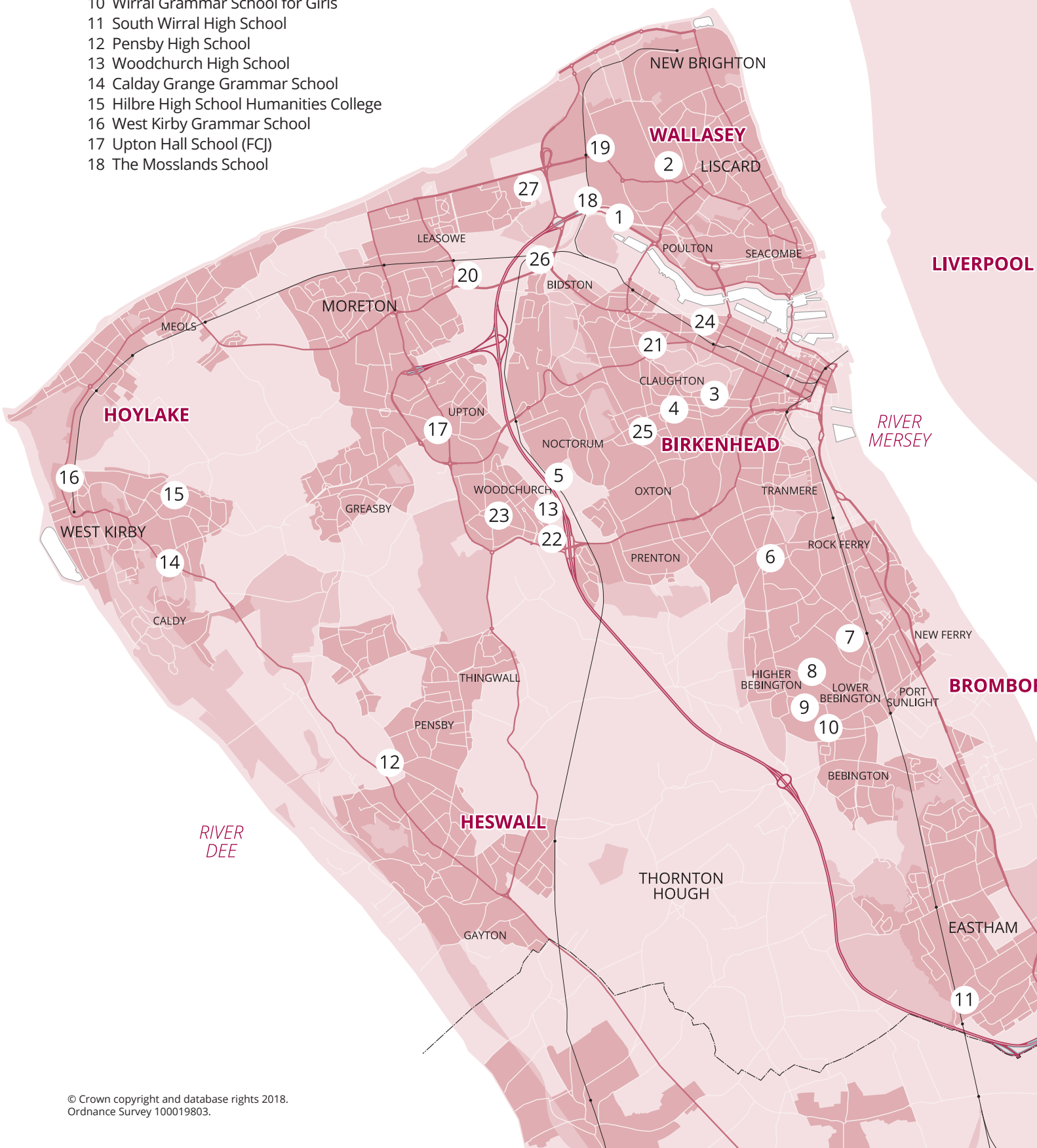


## Open Days and Evenings at Wirral Secondary schools

Date	School	Time	Headteacher's talk
Wed 12 Sep	St Mary's Catholic College	Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm	6pm & 7pm
Wed 12 Sep	Ridgeway High School	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	6.30pm
Thu 13 Sep	Hilbre High School Humanities College	Open Evening 6pm–9pm	6pm & 7pm
Thu 13 Sep	St John Plessington Catholic College	Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm	
Mon 17 Sep	Bebington High Sports College	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	6pm & 7pm
Tue 18 Sep	St Anselm's College	Open Evening 5pm–8pm	6pm & 7pm
Wed 19 Sep	Calday Grange Grammar School	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	6.15pm, 6.45pm & 7.15pm
Wed 19 Sep	St John Plessington Catholic College	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Wed 19 Sep	The Birkenhead Park School	Open Evening 4pm–6pm	5pm
Thu 20 Sep	Ridgeway High School	Open Morning 9.30am–11.30am	
Thu 20 Sep	Calday Grange Grammar School	Open Day 9.30am–12.30pm & 2pm–3.15pm	
Thu 20 Sep	Calday Grange Grammar School	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	6.15pm, 6.45pm & 7.15pm
Thu 20 Sep	Upton Hall School (FCJ)	Open Evening 5.30pm–8pm	6.15pm & 7pm
Fri 21 Sep	The Birkenhead Park School	Open Morning 9am–12noon	
Mon 24 Sep	The Birkenhead Park School	Open Morning 9am–12noon	
Mon 24 Sep	The Oldershaw Academy	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Tue 25 Sep	The Oldershaw Academy	Open Evening 6pm	
Tue 25 Sep	Wirral Grammar School for Girls	Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm	6pm & 7pm
Wed 26 Sep	St John Plessington Catholic College	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Wed 26 Sep	West Kirby Grammar School	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	6pm & 7pm
Wed 26 Sep	Wirral Grammar School for Boys	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	Please refer to website for times of Headteacher's talks <a href="http://www.wirralgrammarboys.com">www.wirralgrammarboys.com</a>
Wed 26 Sep	Wirral Grammar School for Girls	Open Morning 9.30am–11am (parents only)	9.30am
Thu 27 Sep	Bebington High Sports College	Open Morning 9am–11am	10am
Thu 27 Sep	Weatherhead High School	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	6pm & 7pm
Thu 27 Sep	West Kirby Grammar School	Open Day 9.15am–10.30am & 2.15pm–3.30pm (by appointment)	
Thu 27 Sep	Wirral Grammar School for Boys	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	Please refer to website for times of Headteacher's talks <a href="http://www.wirralgrammarboys.com">www.wirralgrammarboys.com</a>
Thu 27 Sep	The Mosslands School	Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm	6.15pm & 7.15pm
Fri 28 Sep	Weatherhead High School	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Fri 28 Sep	The Mosslands School	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Mon 1 Oct	The Oldershaw Academy	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Mon 1 Oct	Woodchurch High School	Open Evening 5.30pm–8.30pm	6.30pm & 7.30pm
Tue 2 Oct	Birkenhead High School Academy	Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm	6.45pm & 7.30pm
Wed 3 Oct	West Kirby Grammar School	Open Day 9.15am–10.30am & 2.15pm–3.30pm (by appointment)	
Wed 3 Oct	South Wirral High School	Open Evening 6pm–9pm	6.30pm–7.30pm
Thu 4 Oct	Woodchurch High School	Open Day 9.30am–11.45am & 1.30pm–3pm	
Thu 4 Oct	Prenton High School for Girls	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	6.15pm & 7pm
Thu 4 Oct	Birkenhead Sixth Form College	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	
Fri 5 Oct	Woodchurch High School	Open Day 9.30am–11.45am & 1.30pm–3pm	
Mon 8 Oct	Prenton High School for Girls	Open Morning 9.30am–11.30am	
Wed 10 Oct	South Wirral High School	Open Morning 9.30am–11am	
Thur 11 Oct	Ridgeway High School	Open Morning 9.30am–11.30am	
Thur 11 Oct	Wirral Metropolitan College	Open Evening 4.30pm–7pm	
Thur 11 Oct	Pensby High School	Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm	6.30pm & 7.30pm
Fri 12 Oct	Weatherhead High School	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Fri 12 Oct	The Mosslands School	Open Morning 9am–11am	
Mon 15 Oct	Pensby High School	Open Morning 9.30am–12noon	
Wed 17 Oct	Ridgeway High School	Open Morning 9.30am–11.30am	
Thur 18 Oct	Birkenhead High School Academy	Open Day 9am–10.30am	
Thur 29 Nov	Birkenhead Sixth Form College	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	
Thu 17 Jan '19	Wirral Metropolitan College	Open Evening 4.30pm–7pm	
Thu 24 Jan '19	Birkenhead Sixth Form College	Open Evening 6pm–8pm	

# Map of Wirral Secondary Schools

- 1 Weatherhead High School
- 2 The Oldershaw Academy
- 3 Birkenhead Park School
- 4 St Anselm's College
- 5 Ridgeway High School
- 6 Prenton High School for Girls
- 7 St John Plessington Catholic College
- 8 Bebington High School
- 9 Wirral Grammar School for Boys
- 10 Wirral Grammar School for Girls
- 11 South Wirral High School
- 12 Pensby High School
- 13 Woodchurch High School
- 14 Calday Grange Grammar School
- 15 Hilbre High School Humanities College
- 16 West Kirby Grammar School
- 17 Upton Hall School (FCJ)
- 18 The Mosslands School
- 19 St Mary's Catholic College
- 20 Clare Mount School
- 21 Wirral Hospital School and Pupil Access and Support
- 22 Foxfield School
- 23 Meadowside School
- 24 Kilgarth School
- 25 Birkenhead High School Academy
- 26 The Observatory School
- 27 Emslie Morgan Alternative School Provision



# List of Secondary Schools

**Bebington High Sports College**

Higher Bebington Road, Bebington,  
Wirral CH63 2PS  
Phone: 0151 645 4154  
Fax: 0151 643 8065  
Email: schooloffice@  
bebingtonhigh.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **215**

**Birkenhead High School Academy**

86 Devonshire Road, Birkenhead,  
Wirral CH43 1TY  
Phone: 0151 642 5777  
Email: AdmissionsSec@birkhs.gdst.net

Admission number: **135**

**Calday Grange Grammar School**

Grammar School Lane, West Kirby, Wirral  
CH48 8GG  
Phone: 0151 625 2727  
Fax: 0151 625 9851  
Email: theschool@calday.co.uk

Admission number: **200**

**Hilbre High School Humanities College**

Frankby Road, West Kirby, Wirral CH48 6EQ  
Phone: 0151 625 5996  
Fax: 0151 625 3697  
Email: schooloffice@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **200**

**Mosslands School**

Mosslands Drive, Wallasey, Wirral CH45 8PJ  
Phone: 0151 638 8131  
Fax: 0151 639 1317  
Email: admin@mosslands.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **224**

**Pensby High School**

Irby Road, Heswall, Wirral CH61 6XN  
Phone: 0151 342 0570  
Fax: 0151 342 0571  
Email: schooloffice@psf.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **165**

**Prenton High School for Girls**

Hesketh Avenue, Prenton, Wirral CH42 6RR  
Phone: 0151 644 8113  
Fax: 0151 643 9588  
Email: schooloffice@  
prentonhighschool.co.uk

Admission number: **158**

**Ridgeway High School**

Noctorum Avenue, Prenton, Wirral CH43 9EB  
Phone: 0151 678 3322  
Fax: 0151 678 6571  
Email: schooloffice@ridgeway.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **160**

**St Anselm's College**

Manor Hill, Claughton,  
Wirral CH43 1UQ  
Phone: 0151 652 1408  
Fax: 0151 652 1957  
Email: info@st-anselms.com

Admission number: **140**

**St John Plessington Catholic College**

Old Chester Rd, Bebington, Wirral CH63 7LF  
Phone: 0151 645 5049  
Fax: 0151 643 1516  
Email: schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com

Admission number: **270**

**St Mary's Catholic Aided College**

Wallasey Village, Wallasey, Wirral CH45 3LN  
Phone: 0151 639 7531  
Fax: 0151 201 4514  
Email: schooloffice@stmaryswallasey.com

Admission number: **240**

**South Wirral High School**

Plymyard Avenue, Eastham, Wirral CH62 8EH  
Phone: 0151 327 3213  
Fax: 0151 327 7798  
Email: schooloffice@southwirral.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **212**

**The Oldershaw Academy**

Valkyrie Road, Wallasey, Wirral CH45 4RJ  
Phone: 0151 638 2800  
Fax: 0151 201 4532  
Email: schooloffice@oldershaw.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **168**

**The Birkenhead Park School**

Park Road South, Birkenhead,  
Wirral CH43 4UY  
Phone: 0151 652 1574  
Fax: 0151 653 6760  
Email: offices@birkenheadparkschool.com

Admission number: **150**

**Upton Hall School (FCJ)**

Moreton Road, Upton, Wirral CH49 6LJ  
Phone: 0151 677 7696  
Fax: 0151 677 6868  
Email: uhs@uptonhall.org

Admission number: **156**

**Weatherhead High School**

Breck Road, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 3HS  
Phone: 0151 631 4400  
Fax: 0151 637 1805  
Email: schooloffice@weatherheadhigh.co.uk

Admission number: **254**

**West Kirby Grammar School**

Graham Road, West Kirby, Wirral CH48 5DP  
Phone: 0151 632 3449  
Fax: 0151 632 1224  
Email: office@wkgs.net

Admission number: **180**

**Wirral Grammar School for Boys**

Cross Lane, Bebington, Wirral CH63 3AQ  
Phone: 0151 644 0908  
Fax: 0151 643 8317  
Email: schooloffice@wirralgrammarboys.com

Admission number: **155**

**Wirral Grammar School for Girls**

Heath Road, Bebington, Wirral CH63 3AF  
Phone: 0151 644 8282  
Fax: 0151 643 1332  
Email: schooloffice@wirralgirls.co.uk

Admission number: **180**

**Woodchurch High School**

Carr Bridge Road, Woodchurch,  
Wirral CH49 7NG  
Phone: 0151 677 5257  
Fax: 0151 678 1906  
Email: schooloffice@  
woodchurch-high.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **281**

## Details of 14 to 19 schools within the local area

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There are currently no 14 to 19 schools in Wirral, however there are three in Liverpool and one due to open in Chester in September 2017. The four schools are listed below along with a link to their websites, where you will also find information about the admission application process and the admission criteria.

### University Technical Colleges

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) are set up by universities and businesses and specialise in one or two technical subjects. At GCSE they offer a similar curriculum to a typical secondary school, including basics of English and Maths as well as their specialist subject.

#### Liverpool Life Sciences UTC

41 Greenland Street, Liverpool, L1 0BS  
Phone: 0151 230 1320  
Email: [admin@lifesciencesutc.co.uk](mailto:admin@lifesciencesutc.co.uk)  
Website: [lifesciencesutc.co.uk](http://lifesciencesutc.co.uk)  
Number on roll (March 2017): 510  
Year 10 admission number: 200

### Studio Schools

Studio schools are similar to UTCs in that they have employer involvement in the curriculum and focus on developing the skills needed for employment, involving personal coaching and work experience, alongside a similar curriculum to a typical secondary school.

#### The Studio School

41 Greenland Street, Liverpool, L1 0BS  
Phone: 0151 230 1330  
Email: [admin@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk](mailto:admin@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk)  
Website: [thestudioliverpool.co.uk](http://thestudioliverpool.co.uk)  
Number on roll (March 2017): 300  
Year 10 admission number: 75

#### Studio@Deyes

41 Greenland Street, Liverpool, L1 0BS  
Phone: 0151 230 1330  
Email: [admin@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk](mailto:admin@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk)  
Website: [thestudioliverpool.co.uk](http://thestudioliverpool.co.uk)  
Number on roll (March 2017): 76  
Year 10 admission number: 50

#### Christleton International Studio

Queens Park Campus, Queens Park Road, Chester, CH4 7AE  
Phone: 01244 677 535  
Website: [christletoninternationalstudio.co.uk](http://christletoninternationalstudio.co.uk)  
Number on roll – New School  
Year 10 admission number: 60

Information about numbers on roll and admission numbers has been provided by the individual schools and will be subject to change. Enquiries should be addressed directly to the school.

If you do decide that you would like to apply for a place at any of these schools, you will need to submit an application directly to the school (see websites for details).

## Special schools and resourced provision

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### Moderate learning difficulty

#### Bebington High Sports College

Phone: 0151 645 4154  
Email: [schooloffice@bebingtonhigh.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@bebingtonhigh.wirral.sch.uk)  
Age Range: 11 to 18  
Places: 25

#### Clare Mount School

Phone: 0151 606 9440 or 0151 606 0274  
Email: [schooloffice@claremount.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@claremount.wirral.sch.uk)  
Age Range: 11 to 19  
Places: 216

#### Hilbre High School Humanities College

Phone: 0151 625 5996  
Email: [schooloffice@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk)  
Places: 15

#### The Oldershaw Academy

Phone: 0151 638 2800  
Email: [schooloffice@oldershaw.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@oldershaw.wirral.sch.uk)  
Places: 20

### Complex learning difficulty

#### Foxfield School

Phone: 0151 641 8810  
Email: [schooloffice@foxfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@foxfieldschool.co.uk)  
Age Range: 11 to 19  
Places: 133

#### Meadowside School

Phone: 0151 678 7711  
Email: [schooloffice@meadowsideschool.com](mailto:schooloffice@meadowsideschool.com)  
Age Range: 11 to 19  
Places: 75

### Emotional and behavioural difficulty

#### Kilgarth School

Phone: 0151 652 8071  
Email: [schooloffice@kilgarth.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@kilgarth.wirral.sch.uk)  
Age Range: 11 to 16  
Places: 55

#### The Observatory School

Phone: 0151 652 7093  
Email: [schooloffice@theobservatoryschool.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@theobservatoryschool.wirral.sch.uk)  
Age Range: 11 to 16  
Places: 55

### Physical and mental health

#### Wirral Hospitals School, Joseph Paxton Campus and Home Education Service

Phone: 0151 488 7680  
Email: [schooloffice@wirralhs.co.uk](mailto:schooloffice@wirralhs.co.uk)  
Age Range: 11 to 16  
Places: 80

### Asperger's Syndrome

#### Hilbre High School Humanities College

Phone: 0151 625 5996  
Email: [schooloffice@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk)  
Places: 15

#### Woodchurch High School

Phone: 0151 677 5257  
Email: [schooloffice@woodchurch-high.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@woodchurch-high.wirral.sch.uk)  
Age Range: 11 to 16  
Places: 15



# Parents' questionnaire

## Secondary Education in Wirral 2019–2020

### Information for parents

We would like you to comment on the style and layout of this booklet ‘Information for parents’

How did you get this booklet?

From the internet	<input type="checkbox"/>
From a primary school	<input type="checkbox"/>
From a secondary school’s open day or evening	<input type="checkbox"/>
From an information office or one stop shop	<input type="checkbox"/>
From a call centre by telephone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please give details.)	<input type="text"/>

Did you find the layout easy to follow?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If ‘No’, what do you think we should change?

Does the information answer all or most of your questions?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If ‘No’, what do you think we should include?

Did you know that you could read this booklet on our website ([www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk))?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Do you have any other comments to make about the booklet?

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this questionnaire. Please hand it in at any primary school or send it directly to Mainstream Admissions, Adult and Disability Services, PO Box 290, Brighton Street, Wallasey, CH27 9FQ.

## **Adult and Disability Services**

PO Box 290  
Brighton Street  
Wallasey  
CH27 9FQ

**Phone: 0151 606 2020**

**Fax: 0151 666 4485**

**Email: [secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk)**



Wirral Borough Council's Adult and Disability Services can not be held responsible for misleading, out of date or incorrect information held on cached pages accessed through or maintained by individual search engines, online forums or internet third party sites.

The information in this booklet relates to the school year 2019 to 2020. However, this does not take account of the review of school places and there may be changes before the beginning of that year or during that year.