

ADMISSIONS POLICY

2026/27



This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
Governing Body – January 2025	
Date of next review	December 2025

Admissions policy for South Wirral High School 2026 - 2027

Section1: General Principles

South Wirral High School is an 11-19 mixed all-ability school, serving the communities of Eastham, Bromborough and the surrounding areas of Wirral and Cheshire including Hooton, Neston, Childer Thornton, Willaston and Ellesmere Port. We do not have any requirement for an aptitude from prospective students.

As a Foundation School the Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for decisions on admission to the school.

The main principle of admission for South Wirral High School is to maintain the character of the school as an all-ability school, providing for the needs of young people aged 11-19.

Admission to our school is not based on any “voluntary” contribution.

Students will be admitted at the age of 11+ without reference to ability or aptitude using the criteria below. The Published Admission Number for 2026 and subsequent years will be 212. The school may exceed its Published Admission Number if not doing so would result in eligible children of the same household being refused admission.

The school participates in the Wirral Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme and all deadlines within that should be adhered to by applicants.

Section 2: Over subscription criteria

If the school is over-subscribed 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 step-brother 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.

Section 3. In Year Transfers

Applications received for 'in year' admissions for Years 7 – 11 are administered through Wirral Local Authority. The school will offer places in line with Wirral Local Authority policies up to the admission number of 212 places in each year group.

The school maintains a waiting list in each year group which follows the same over-subscription criteria detailed in this policy.

Section 4: Other information

Withdrawal of offers

Any offer of a place may be withdrawn if it is discovered that misleading information has been provided in order to secure an offer.

Any offer of a place may be withdrawn if the parent declines the offer of a place.

Late applications

Late applications will be dealt with in accordance with arrangements applied by Wirral LA. Where applicable, a waiting list will be administered in accordance with arrangements applied by Wirral LA.

In year admissions

Admissions for all other year groups will be dealt with in accordance with the criteria in section 2

Sixth Form admissions

The admissions number for the Sixth Form is 150.

The required minimum standard for entry to the Sixth Form to follow more than one A Level course is five GCSEs at grades 9 - 4. Individual A Level courses may require higher GCSE grades. Non-A Level courses may require lower GCSE grades. Details are available on request.

Priority of entry is given to existing students at the school.

If the Sixth Form is over-subscribed the criteria in section 2 will be applied.

Appeals

If an application for admission has been refused by the Governing Body, parents have the right to appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors within 28 days of the refusal. Parents must give their reason for appealing in writing and the decision of the Panel is binding on the Governors.