



Watford Grammar School for Boys

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www.watfordboys.org

Admission's email: dunsbyr@watfordboys.org

SECONDARY TRANSFER 2018 INFORMATION

Please read this document carefully and in conjunction with the Admission Policy

ENTRANCE TESTS

If you are applying under Criteria 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 or 8 you are strongly advised to enter your son for the school's admissions tests. (Please refer to the Admission Policy).

The school's admissions tests are administered jointly by The South West Herts Admissions Consortium. You will need to register with the consortium if you are interested in applying to any of the following schools: Watford Grammar School for Boys or Girls, Parmiter's School, St. Clement Danes School, Rickmansworth School, Queens School, Bushey Meads School and Croxley Danes School. Your child will sit one test regardless of which school/s you may later apply to, they will not sit a different test for each school.

The website for registering your son or daughter with the Consortium will open on 24 April 2017. It will remain open until 16 June and you can register your child at any time in that period. There is no advantage in registering on the first day; indeed if too many parents try to do so, the website might not cope with the demand.

If you are unable to register online you can register by post; you will need to collect a registration form from any of the Consortium schools.

The website address is: www.swhertsschools.org.uk

Late registrations will not be accepted

Parents must ensure their child's availability on the published test dates. One further date for the academic and music test will be arranged, if required, for children that registered on time who miss the main testing days because they were medically unfit (a medical certificate will be required) or for specific religious observance only.

WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE CHILDREN WHOSE HOLIDAY COMMITMENTS CLASH WITH OUR TESTS OR FOR ANY OTHER REASONS THAN THOSE STATED ABOVE

Please read the FAQ section of the registration website carefully.

You will be informed of the test centre by 3rd July and this is allocated by postcode. The school allocated has no bearing on your eventual school preference and cannot be changed.

Date	Test
Monday 24 April	Online registration opens
Friday 16 June	Online registration closes
Friday 16 June	Last date for written evidence of special consideration/access arrangements to be received by the consortium
Saturday 9 September	Academic test
Tuesday 12 September	Music aptitude test
Monday 25 September	Start of second round music tests
Monday 16 October	Scores notified to parents
Tuesday 31 October	Deadline for applications to be made

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The Academic Tests

The tests, Mathematics and Verbal Reasoning, have been specially devised for the consortium schools and cannot be obtained by the general public. No minimum score will be required to gain admission; places are offered strictly in descending order of candidates' standardised test scores.

Familiarisation papers are available to download from www.swhertsschools.org.uk

Musical Aptitude Test

Detailed information for applicants under Criterion 7 (musical aptitude) is given in our Admission Policy (point 2.1.1). Please note this is an aptitude test, not a test of musical ability and we do not require any information about the instruments or standard to which your child plays.

Special consideration/access arrangements for the test

If your child usually receives special consideration, for example extra time to complete a test, you will need to provide evidence of the need so that appropriate provision can be made. This must be supported by a letter from your primary school Headteacher. You are required to send support arrangements immediately after test registration, attached to a copy of your registration email/paper application. You must send all documents (i.e. the evidence/letter from Headteacher and a copy of your test registration document) to the Test Co-Ordinator, South West Herts Schools Tests, P.O. Box 2439, Watford, WD18 1UZ. This evidence must be received by Friday 16th June, at the latest. You will be informed of any appropriate special arrangements which will be made for your child.

If your child is ill on the day of the academic/music test, you should notify the school that you have been allocated as soon as possible.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I make an application?

1. Apply online to your Local Education Authority, giving Watford Grammar School for Boys as a named school.
 2. Complete and return a School Information Form (SIF) to Watford Grammar School for Boys
- You **MUST** complete both forms and return them by the deadlines given.

When is the deadline to apply?

31st October is the official deadline for applications, both to your LEA and here.

What is the DFE number for Watford Grammar School for Boys?

919 5401

When is your Open Day?

Our Open Morning is Saturday 30th September 2017, 9am to 12 noon. Tours of the School will be available during the event and there is no need to register.

Is the School Information Form (SIF) available on-line?

The SIF will be available to download from our website from Open Morning. If you are unable to access our website you can collect a SIF from the school, either on or after Open Morning. School opening hours are 8.30am to 4.00pm.

What happens if I do not submit a School Information Form (SIF) to Watford Grammar School for Boys?

We will not know if you are eligible to have your application considered under any particular criteria and therefore your application will only be considered under criteria 2 (distance), e.g. we will not know if you have taken the academic or music tests or if you have a sibling already here.

What happens if I do not apply to my LEA, naming Watford Grammar School for Boys as one of my choices?

Even if you take the academic/music tests or have a sibling here already, we will not be able to offer your son a place here.

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Can I apply if my postcode is not in one of your postcode areas?

Last year the school received 600 applications from within the Admission Area for 196 places and, unfortunately, this means that, due to our over subscription criteria, applicants outside the Admission Area have no realistic chance of being offered a place under these admission arrangements. Unless you are intending to apply to another school within the SW Herts Consortium, under whose admission arrangements your child would be considered for a place, there is no point in requesting that your child sit the tests. Having taken the test before applying to any school will not make your child eligible for a place unless the application complies with the rest of our admissions arrangements, principally that the child's home address is inside the WBSGS admissions area. In such a case, should you apply, even after your child has taken the tests, your application will merely be acknowledged and retained. Should it transpire that there are insufficient acceptances from applicants within the Admission Area to fill all the places, only then would your application be considered.

If I take the academic/music tests, can I still apply for a distance place?

Test places are classed as specialist places and all applicants who apply for a specialist place are automatically deemed to have applied for a community place (see Admission Policy for further clarification of community and specialist places).

Does my son have to sit any tests?

Non-sibling applicants who do not sit any tests, either academic or music, will only be considered under the distance criterion.

Applicants with a brother at Watford Boys do not sit the academic test. Bear in mind that the older brother must be on roll at the time the younger brother enters the school (i.e. if you only have a son in Upper Sixth at the time of application your younger son would not be allocated a sibling place) and not have first entered the school in the Sixth form.

We strongly recommend that cross siblings take the test in the event of there not being enough community places to admit all cross siblings.

Applicants can apply only under the music criterion and only take the music test, however there are limited places under this criterion and applicants are advised to sit the academic test as well.

Do you want to know about my child's sporting abilities and extra-curricular activities?

No – this information will not affect his application. Places are offered in strict accordance with the Admission Arrangements only.