



Secondary

Secondary Education in Wirral 2020/21

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.

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| <p>إذا لديك الرغبة في الاتصال على مجلس ویرال Wirral ولكن لا تتكلم اللغة الانجليزية يمكنك الاتصال تلفونياً على مركزنا للاتصالات على الرقم 2020 606 (0151) او الذهاب الى وحدة الخدمات المتعددة حيث تتوفر المساعدة . فقط اخبرنا ما هي اللغة التي نتحدثها ويمكننا توفير مترجم عبر التلفون.</p> |
| (Arabic) |
| <p>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।</p> |
| (Bengali) |
| <p>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。</p> |
| (Chinese) |
| <p>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.</p> |
| (Gaelic) |
| <p>यदि आपको विरल कौंसिल के साथ सम्पर्क करने की अवाश्यकता है, परंतु आप अंग्रेज़ी नहीं बोलते तो आप इस नम्बर पर (0151) 606 2020 पर काल सेंटर में टैलीफोन कर सकते हैं या हमारी किसी भी वॉन स्टॉप शॉप 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।</p> |
| (Hindi) |
| <p>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.</p> |
| (Polish) |
| <p>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 ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ।</p> |
| (Punjabi) |
| <p>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 Dukaamadayada Hal-Mar-Joogsiga ah, halkaas oo caawinaad laga helo. Noo sheeg luqadda aad ku hadasho, waxa aan kuu keeni karnaa qof teleefoonka kuugu turjuma.</p> |
| (Somali) |
| <p>اگر آپ کو ویرال کونسل سے رابطہ کرنا ہو، لیکن آپ انگریزی نہیں بولتے ہیں تو، آپ کال سنٹر کو (0151) 606 2020 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۔</p> |
| (Urdu) |

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September 2019

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 2020 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 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 their 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

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 26 secondary schools in Wirral. This includes five special schools 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 non-denominational, 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

Website: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org

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

All-ability and grammar schools

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

The arrangements described below apply to children born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009. We will not normally offer places in community secondary schools to children born after 31 August 2009.

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

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 schools' admission number.

Making an application

Wirral's online admission system can be accessed from 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 2019**. 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 2019**.

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

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

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 or on request (0151 606 2020, email 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 on page 10 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. Arrangements where parents leave and collect children from another relative or carer on a daily basis will be regarded as childcare arrangements, and the child will not be deemed to be "ordinarily resident" with that person.

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. This may include data held by Council Tax and/or Housing Benefit teams. The Council's Fraud and Investigations team may be asked to review the information that has been provided. This may include interviewing and taking a signed statement from the applicant.

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 necessary this information will be shared with various internal Council teams, and with external agencies, including other Local Authorities and Schools, the Department for Education, Office of the Schools Adjudicator, the Education Skills Funding Agency, the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and the NHS Community Trust where required in relation to other legal, statutory or other regulatory obligations or requirements. In order to verify the authenticity of pupils' addresses or income status this information may be shared with Council Tax and Housing Benefit teams. Information about your child may also be shared with Members of Parliament or Local 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 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

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

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

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 2019.

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.

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.

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 2019 and should not complete an application until then.

Late applications

Applications received by Wirral Local Authority by 31 October 2019 will be treated as on-time. Late preferences received on or after 1 November 2019 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

If you are a Wirral resident we will tell you which school your child has been allocated. On 2 March 2020, 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 by 10 March, either by email or using the reply slip on your allocation letter.

Appeals against admission decisions

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

Website: 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 schools

- 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 on the portal (only for original preferences), on the reply slip attached to your allocation letter or by email to **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

- 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 2020

31 May 2019

Deadline for Request for Assessment forms to be returned.

September 2019

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.

October 2019

Grammar school assessment outcomes are sent to parents (by 21 October).

31 October 2019

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

2 March 2020

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

10 March 2020

Online acceptances to be submitted by this date.

31 March 2020

Appeals to be submitted by this date.

May to July 2020

Appeals to be heard and decided.

September 2020

Children begin secondary school in Year 7.

Admissions to schools in other local authority areas

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 2 March 2020 as detailed above.

Parents who live outside Wirral

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 2019.

Transfer between schools and children moving to Wirral

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

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

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 schools 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

Education after age 16

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 can be found on the individual school's websites.

Birkenhead Sixth Form College

Phone: 0151 652 5575

Email: enrol@bsfc.ac.uk

Website: www.bsfc.ac.uk

Wirral Metropolitan College

Phone: 0151 551 7777

Email: wmc.enquiries@wmc.ac.uk

Website: www.wmc.ac.uk

Transport policy

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

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.

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 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 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. There is now a new way to claim free school meals for children. To claim free school meals contact your child's school to sign up to the free online system.

If your child will take packed lunches to school, the NHS have produced some tips and suggestions for a healthy packed lunch on the change4life webpages.

www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes

Financial assistance for 16 to 19 year olds

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

School clothes

Children are expected to dress neatly for school. Secondary age children do not need to wear a school uniform, but many schools ask children to wear a type or colour of clothing that is associated with the school. However, as the Local Authority does not ask for this, the Council does not provide a grant towards buying school clothing. Some schools will offer free or low cost uniform items. Wirral F.U.S.S distributed free good quality recycled uniforms.

To find out more, go to www.wirralfuss.co.uk

Special educational needs

The majority of children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) or disabilities will have their needs met by local mainstream early years providers, schools or colleges. Some children and young people, however, may require an EHC needs assessment in order for the local authority (LA) to decide whether it is necessary for it to make provision in accordance with an EHC plan.

The School Admissions Code of Practice requires children and young people with SEN to be treated fairly. Admissions authorities:

- Must consider applications from parents of children who have SEN but do not have an EHC plan on the basis of the school's published admissions criteria as part of normal admissions procedures.
- Must not refuse to admit a child who has SEN but does not have an EHC plan because they do not feel able to cater for those needs
- Must not refuse to admit a child on the grounds that they do not have an EHC plan

Details of the provision available in each school can be found in their school's information report. Links to local early years providers, schools and colleges can be accessed via the Wirral Local Offer website

<https://localofferwirral.org/>

Children and young people with SEN have different needs and can be educated effectively in a range of mainstream or special settings. Alongside the general presumption of mainstream education, parents of children with an EHC plan and young people with such a plan have the right to seek a place at a special school, special post-16 institution or specialist college.

If you think that your child may have special educational needs, you can speak to your child's early years provider, school or college. There is usually a teacher responsible for coordinating SEN provision (the SEN Co-ordinator or SENCO). Further details about EHC plans can be found on the Local Offer website link above.

In a small number of cases, we will agree to a child who has an EHC plan 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.

Transport to special schools and classes

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 (SEND).

Not all children with a statement of Special Educational Needs or 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.

Eligibility for transport is subject to an initial application which will be assessed in accordance with the council's home to school transport policy.

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. Parents sometimes raise issues regarding accompaniment as part of an appeal and these will then be considered on an individual basis.

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 telephone **0151 666 4212** or email **CYPD_transport4children@wirral.gov.uk** for further information.

What happens if my application is refused?

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)

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

Wirral SEND Partnership

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 Option 2

Email: isa@wired.me.uk

Website: www.wired.me.uk

Equal opportunities

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

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

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 and academies is the responsibility of the governing body and will be taught according to the school's trust deed.

Sex and relationship education

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

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

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

For more details, contact the school directly.

Health Services in Schools

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

Website: www.wirralct.nhs.uk/school-nurses

Music

Learning to play a musical instrument is a journey of discovery, joy, challenge and fulfilment. Edsential provides music tuition in many primary, secondary and special schools. If your child is not able to receive tuition in school, then Edsential can offer tuition in Music Centres at Woodchurch or Wallasey in the evenings or on Saturday mornings. The Wirral Centre for Young Musicians takes place on Saturday mornings and provide string, orchestral, wind and brass groups as well as theory and aural tuition for children of all abilities. More advanced students may audition to become members of senior ensembles, including orchestra, brass band, big band and concert band. These groups

regularly tour abroad and are involved with regional and national festivals of music.

Charges may be made for lessons and other activities. Financial support is usually available for children in receipt of pupil premium. Please enquire at your school or directly with Edsential for further details about financial support for music tuition and the remissions policy. Instruments may be hired or purchased from Edsential. You can get further details about tuition, music centres and ensembles from:

Edsential Music Service

Phone: 0151 541 2170 ext: 2011

Email: Music@edsential.co.uk

<https://edsential.com/>

More about the National Curriculum

You can get further details about the National Curriculum from **www.direct.gov.uk/national-curriculum**

New Wirral Attendance Team

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow.

Good school attendance is an essential element to our ambition to raise standards and secure best outcomes for all children and young people. Our new attendance team will work in collaboration with schools and partner agencies to improve attendance levels in Wirral's Schools and fulfil legal statutory responsibilities.

As well as its duties linked to school attendance, the Service has responsibilities in relation to Children Electively Home Educated (EHE), Traveller Children, Children Missing from Education (CME), Child Employment and children involved in performances and entertainment. This includes dealing with enquiries from the public, schools, Local Authority colleagues, and other agencies both on the telephone and in person.

Whilst we recognise that regular school attendance is a parents responsibility; in cases where poor school attendance and punctuality is a safeguarding matter and where all offers of early help and targeted support are not able to ensure a child attends school regularly, it may be necessary for school to work together with the Local Authority Enforcement Officer to enforce the law around school attendance.

You can get further information from:

Attendance Team

Phone: 0151 666 3433

Email: schoolattendance@wirral.gov.uk

Glossary of terms used in the booklet

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.

EHCP (EHC plan)

Education, Health and Care Plans are personalised plans for children and young people with special educational needs that cover from birth to age 25.

They aim to ensure that all the support the young person needs from education, health and social care professionals is agreed in one place.

EHC plans replaced statements and learning disability assessments in September 2014. Children and young people who previously had one of these will be gradually moved over to an EHC plan.

Foundation School

A foundation school is 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 School

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

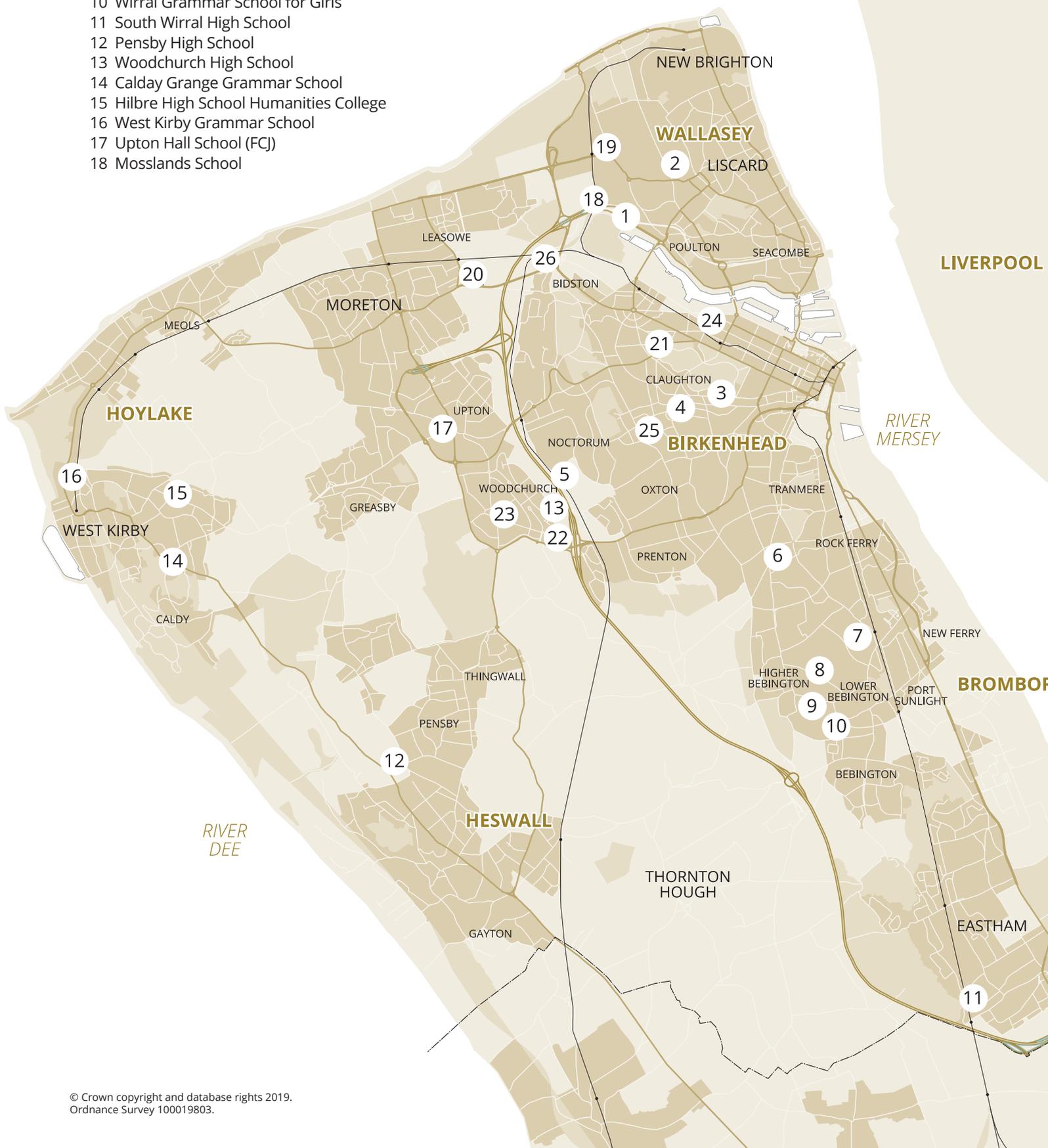
Voluntary aided schools are maintained by the Local Authority from public funds. The governing body employ the staff directly. The buildings and grounds are usually owned by a religious organisation. The governors of voluntary aided schools are responsible for their own admission arrangements.

Open Days and Evenings at Wirral Secondary schools

| Date | School | Time | Headteacher's talk |
|------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Wed 11 Sep | St Mary's Catholic College | Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm | 6pm |
| Wed 11 Sep | Ridgeway High School | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Thu 12 Sep | Hilbre High School Humanities College | Open Evening 5.30pm–8.30pm | 5.30pm & 6.30pm |
| Thu 12 Sep | St John Plessington Catholic College | Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm | |
| Mon 16 Sep | St Anselm's College | Open Evening 5pm–8pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Wed 18 Sep | St John Plessington Catholic College | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Wed 18 Sep | The Birkenhead Park School | Open Evening 4.30pm–7pm | 5.15pm |
| Thu 19 Sep | The Co-Op Academy Bebington | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Thu 19 Sep | Upton Hall School (FCJ) | Open Evening 5.30pm–8pm | 6.15pm & 7pm |
| Fri 20 Sep | The Birkenhead Park School | Open Morning 9am–12noon | |
| Mon 23 Sep | The Birkenhead Park School | Open Morning 9am–12noon | |
| Mon 23 Sep | Calday Grange Grammar School | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6.15pm, 6.45pm & 7.15pm |
| Mon 23 Sep | The Oldershaw Academy | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Mon 23 Sep | Ridgeway High School | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Tue 24 Sep | Calday Grange Grammar School | Open Day 9.30am–12noon & 2pm–3.15pm | |
| Tue 24 Sep | Calday Grange Grammar School | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6.15pm, 6.45pm & 7.15pm |
| Tue 24 Sep | The Oldershaw Academy | Open Evening 6pm | |
| Tue 24 Sep | Ridgeway High School | Open Morning 9.30am–11am | |
| Tue 24 Sep | Wirral Grammar School for Girls | Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Wed 25 Sep | St John Plessington Catholic College | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Wed 25 Sep | West Kirby Grammar School | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Wed 25 Sep | Wirral Grammar School for Girls | Open Morning 9.30am–11am | 9.30am |
| Thu 26 Sep | The Co-Op Academy Bebington | Open Morning 9.30am–11am | 9.30am |
| Thu 26 Sep | Weatherhead High School | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Thu 26 Sep | West Kirby Grammar School | Open Day 9.15am–10.30am & 2.15pm–3.30pm (by appointment) | |
| Thu 26 Sep | The Mosslands School | Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm | 6.15pm & 7.15pm |
| Fri 27 Sep | Weatherhead High School | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Fri 27 Sep | The Mosslands School | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Mon 30 Sep | The Oldershaw Academy | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Mon 30 Sep | Woodchurch High School | Open Evening 5.30pm–8.30pm | |
| Tue 1 Oct | Birkenhead High School Academy | Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm | 6.45pm & 7.30pm |
| Wed 2 Oct | West Kirby Grammar School | Open Day 9.15am–10.30am & 2.15pm–3.30pm (by appointment) | |
| Wed 2 Oct | Wirral Grammar School for Boys | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | Please refer to website for times of Headteacher's talks www.wirralgrammarboys.com |
| Wed 2 Oct | South Wirral High School | Open Evening 5.30pm–8pm | 6pm & 7pm |
| Thu 3 Oct | Birkenhead Sixth Form College | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | |
| Thu 3 Oct | Prenton High School for Girls | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | 6.15pm & 7pm |
| Thu 3 Oct | Wirral Grammar School for Boys | Open Evening 6pm–8pm | Please refer to website for times of Headteacher's talks www.wirralgrammarboys.com |
| Fri 4 Oct | Woodchurch High School | Open Day 9.30am–12noon & 1.30pm–3pm | |
| Fri 4 Oct | Upton Hall School (FCJ) | Open Morning 9am–10.30am | |
| Mon 7 Oct | Prenton High School for Girls | Open Morning 9.30am–11.30am | |
| Tue 8 Oct | St Mary's Catholic College | Open Morning 9.30am–11am | |
| Wed 9 Oct | South Wirral High School | Open Morning 9am–10am & 10am–11am | |
| Thu 10 Oct | Pensby High School | Open Evening 6pm–8.30pm | 6.30pm & 7.30pm |
| Thu 10 Oct | Wirral Metropolitan College | Open Evening 4.30pm–7pm | |
| Fri 11 Oct | Weatherhead High School | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Fri 11 Oct | The Mosslands School | Open Morning 9am–11am | |
| Mon 14 Oct | Pensby High School | Open Morning 9.30am–12noon | |
| Wed 16 Oct | Ridgeway High School | Open Morning 9.30am–11am | |
| Thu 17 Oct | Birkenhead High School Academy | Open Day 9am–10.30am | |
| Tue 22 Oct | Hilbre High School Humanities College | Open Day 9.30am–11am | 9.30am |

Map of Wirral Secondary Schools

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Weatherhead High School | 19 St Mary's Catholic College |
| 2 The Oldershaw Academy | 20 Clare Mount School |
| 3 The Birkenhead Park School | 21 Wirral Hospital School and Pupil Access and Support |
| 4 St Anselm's College | 22 Foxfield School |
| 5 Ridgeway High School | 23 Meadowside School |
| 6 Prenton High School for Girls | 24 Kilgarth School |
| 7 St John Plessington Catholic College | 25 Birkenhead High School Academy |
| 8 Co-Op Academy Bebington | 26 The Observatory 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 Mosslands School | |



List of Secondary Schools

Birkenhead High School Academy

86 Devonshire Place, Prenton,
Wirral CH43 1TY
Phone: 0151 652 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**

Co-op Academy Bebington

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

Admission number: **215**

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
Email: schooloffice@ridgeway.wirral.sch.uk

Admission number: **160**

St Anselm's College

Manor Hill, Birkenhead,
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
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 Birkenhead Park School

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

Admission number: **150**

The Oldershaw Academy

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

Admission number: **168**

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@wkgcs.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
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

There are currently no 14 to 19 schools in Wirral, however there are three in Liverpool and one in Chester. 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
Website: lifesciencesutc.co.uk
Number on roll (May 2019): 497
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
Website: thestudioliverpool.uk
Number on roll (May 2019): 315
Year 10 admission number: 75

Studio@Deyes

Vortex House, Enterprise Way, Liverpool, L13 1FB
Phone: 0151 230 1330
Email: admin@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk
Website: thestudioliverpool.uk
Number on roll (May 2019): 139
Year 10 admission number: 75

Chester International School

Queens Park Campus, Queens Park Road, Chester, CH4 7AE
Phone: 01244 677 535
Website: chesterinternational.co.uk
Number on roll (May 2019): 76
Year 10 admission number: 70

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

Moderate learning difficulty

Co-Op Academy Bebington
Phone: 0151 645 4154
Email: 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
Age Range: 11 to 19
Places: 216

Hilbre High School Humanities College

Phone: 0151 625 5996
Email: schooloffice@hilbre.wirral.sch.uk
Places: 15

The Oldershaw Academy

Phone: 0151 638 2800
Email: schooloffice@oldershaw.wirral.sch.uk
Places: 20

Complex learning difficulty

Foxfield School
Phone: 0151 641 8810
Email: schooloffice@foxfieldschool.co.uk
Age Range: 11 to 19
Places: 133

Meadowside School

Phone: 0151 678 7711
Email: schooloffice@meadowsideschool.com
Age Range: 11 to 19
Places: 75

Social, emotional and mental health

Kilgarth School
Phone: 0151 652 8071
Email: 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
Age Range: 11 to 16
Places: 55

Physical and mental health

Wirral Hospitals School, Joseph Paxton Campus (By Referral Only)
Phone: 0151 488 7680
Email: 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
Places: 15

Woodchurch High School

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

Parents' questionnaire

Secondary Education in Wirral 2020–2021

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

From a primary school

From a secondary school's open day or evening

From an information office or one stop shop

From a call centre by telephone

Other (Please give details.)

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)?

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, Children's Services, PO Box 290, Brighton Street, Wallasey, CH27 9FQ.

Children's Services

PO Box 290
Brighton Street
Wallasey
CH27 9FQ

Phone: 0151 606 2020

Email: secondaryplaces@wirral.gov.uk



Wirral Council's Children's 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 2020 to 2021. 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.