

WOLVERHAMPTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Wolverhampton Grammar School (and Wolverhampton Grammar Junior School) is a co-educational independent school for pupils from ages 7 to 18.

The Admissions Policy and processes are designed to ensure that new students arrive at our school confident in the knowledge that this is the right environment for them.

Parents are encouraged to visit the School, either informally without appointment, by arranging a personalised tour or by attending a scheduled open event, taster or discovery day, details of which are on the School website www.wgs.org.uk.

Further information on visiting the Junior, Senior School and Sixth Form can be obtained from the Admissions Office and Admissions Registrar: Jane Morris, Tel: 01902 422939, email: jam@wgs-sch.net

How to Apply

Applications are accepted to the Junior, Senior School and Sixth Form throughout the year. The usual points of entry are at Year 3, Year 7, Year 9 and Year 12 though the school may also have occasional places in other school years. Application to the school should be made by Registration Form – available from the Admissions Office or downloadable from the website. The completed Registration Form should be returned to the Admissions Office accompanied by the registration fee (currently £25).

Wolverhampton Grammar School is academically selective. Selection is based upon academic merit which is assessed by an assessment/entrance test relevant to the candidate's year of entry, references from their current school and in the Sixth Form, by an interview at the school. Our selection criteria are designed to identify pupils with potential, who are able to benefit from our balanced and well rounded education and who will make a positive contribution towards the life of the school. Wolverhampton Junior, Senior School and Sixth Form students are well-rounded with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. The School has strong traditions in music, drama, art, community activities and sport. There are many extra-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual.

No specific preparation for the entrance test is needed, all candidates start on an equal footing, with identical opportunities to display their academic aptitude.

Children seeking places in Wolverhampton Junior School are required to sit an online assessment in English and Maths. Candidates for entry to the Senior School (below 16+) sit papers in English, Maths and Verbal Reasoning which are designed for their age group. Sample Test Papers and answers are

available to view and download from the School website. Candidates for entry at 16+ are invited to interview with the Head of Sixth Form and are offered conditional places into Year 12 based on the candidate achieving a minimum of 6 grade B/6 GCSEs, or better in any subject (or supporting subjects) they want to study at A Level, including Grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics.

Once an offer of a place has been made by the School, an acceptance fee of £250 is required in order to secure the place, which should be returned together with the signed Acceptance Form to the Admissions Registrar. The acceptance fee is only refundable in the event of required GCSE grades not being achieved for a Year 12 conditional offer.

Equal Treatment

Wolverhampton Grammar School's aim is to encourage applications from candidates with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. Applications are welcomed from prospective pupils of all religious faiths and none. This enriches the community and is vital in preparing our students for today's world. Bursaries are offered in order to make it possible for as many as possible who meet the School's criteria to attend the School.

In order to cope with the academic and social demands of Wolverhampton Grammar School pupils must be fluent English speakers. Normally, pupils should have been educated in the English medium for some time before coming to the School. Tuition in English as an Additional Language (EAL) can be arranged at the parent's expense.

We are committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's sex, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation or social background (Equal Opportunities Policy for Pupils).

Supported Learning and Excellence for All

Wolverhampton Grammar School does not discriminate in any way regarding entry and the School welcomes pupils with disabilities and special educational needs providing they meet the academic entry requirements, that our site can accommodate them and that the School can offer them the support they require.

Opportunities through Assisted Learning (OpAL) offers specialist, dedicated support for children with dyslexia. Admission to the OpAL programme is by interview and assessment or through the normal admissions procedure.

We welcome students with physical disabilities. However, we strongly advise parents of children with any special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with the Admissions Registrar before he/she sits the entrance exam, so that the School can make adequate provision for him/her. Parents should also provide a copy of an educational psychologist's report or a medical report if they have one. The School will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers, if appropriate, the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if he/she becomes a pupil at the School.

Scholarships

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. The School offers a number of both annually re-assessed means tested Scholarships and non-means tested Scholarships. In recognition of their achievement, the scholars are offered a reduction in fees (and where appropriate, other advantages) throughout their time at Wolverhampton Grammar School.

A Scholarship may be withdrawn in accordance with the terms upon which such an award is made or in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions.

Parents of scholars who anticipate that they may experience difficulty in meeting the balance of the tuition fees are encouraged to apply at the same time for one of the School's means-tested bursaries as described below, when they register their child. As a guideline, both means tested scholarships and bursaries will be considered where family income does not exceed £60,000.

Scholarships are available for entrance at Year 7 and at Year 12.

At Year 7:-

The Jenyns Scholarship (named after the School's founder) is offered at Year 7 to a student or students coming from the Wolverhampton area (WV postcode) who, along with strong academic ability can clearly demonstrate that they will make a positive contribution to the School in any number of areas; these may include (but are not limited to) art, sports, drama, debating. The Jenyns Scholarship is equivalent to one full fee paying place to be offered to a student (or students) who fulfils the above criteria. The value of the Scholarship/s awarded is determined on a means tested financial needs basis.

The Junior Scholarship is awarded to a student/s joining Year 7 from Wolverhampton Grammar Junior School. It is awarded regardless of family income to one or more of the top performing Junior School students in the 11+ entrance test. The Junior Scholarship provides up to 50% remission on fees.

The Year 7 Music Scholarship is awarded to a student coming to the School at Year 7. This scholarship provides 25% remission of the school fees plus free music tuition on the instrument of your child's choice up to and including Grade 8. The student who is awarded the Music Scholarship must still pass the School's entrance test and should either be working towards, or have Grade 5 in their chosen instrument (this includes singing). Music scholars are expected to make a significant contribution to the musical life of the School. Any failure to do so could result in withdrawal of the award.

At Year 12:-

The Old Wulfrunian (OW) Sports Scholarship is offered to a student (or students) living in the Wolverhampton postcode area (WV postcode), who joins the School at age 16, and who has a strong sporting ability demonstrated through one of the following:

- County / Regional / National representation at their chosen sport
- Member of Elite group and / or Academy linked to a professional sporting club or organisation
- National ranking in their chosen sport

The student who is awarded the OW Sports Scholarship must fulfil the criteria for entry into the Sixth Form and undertake an interview with the Head of Sixth Form, and the Head of Boys and / or Girls Games as appropriate.

The OW Sports Scholar will be expected to make a significant contribution to the sporting life at the School and to be available to represent his / her school in competitive matches and for relevant training sessions as required. The OW Sports Scholarship is equivalent to one full fee paying place to be offered to a student (or students) who fulfils the above criteria. The value of the Scholarship/s awarded is determined on means tested financial needs basis.

Two Governors' Academic Scholarships, or the equivalent, are awarded to current Wolverhampton Grammar School students entering the Sixth Form. Students must demonstrate the highest levels of academic endeavour and achievement in order to be considered for these awards. The total remission of the Governors' Academic Scholarships offered will be 50% of the annual school fee.

The 6th Form Music Scholarship provides 25% remission plus free music tuition on the instrument of your choice up to and including Grade 8. The student who is awarded the music scholarship must still meet the Sixth Form academic entrance requirements and should be working at Grade 6 standard (and should be looking to reach Grade 8 standard in the Sixth Form). Music scholars are expected to make a significant contribution to musical life of the School. Any failure to do so could result in withdrawal of the award.

The Ivy Jones Award recognises the potential of a talented student transferring to our Sixth Form from another school who is in need of financial support. The award may vary according to the financial circumstances of each family but will not exceed 50% of the annual fees. As a guideline, in order to be considered for the award, the family household income should not exceed £60,000 per annum. The award will be offered to the student who achieves the highest GCSE grades of all eligible applicants. It is therefore designed to reward the brightest and best students who may not otherwise, be able to experience a Wolverhampton Grammar School education.

The award will be available for both years of sixth form, subject to annual review, with eligible students invited to apply during the recruitment period for Year 12. Due to limitation of funds,

applications are only invited every two years.

The STEM Sixth Form Scholarship is awarded to a student who has a passion for STEM subjects (academic disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics); who can also demonstrate a love of learning, adaptability, confidence and teamwork (not just limited to intellectual ability); and can demonstrate they are in need of financial support. The recipient of this Scholarship will receive partial fee remission (it will not exceed 75% and not be less than 50%) of the annual fees for the duration of their time at the School. As a guideline, in order to be considered for the award, the family household income should not exceed £60,000 per annum.

Means Tested Bursaries

Wolverhampton Grammar School's bursary programme is designed to enable as many as possible of those who meet the Senior School entry criteria to take up a place. The School offers several means-tested awards annually to entrants at Year 7, where the parents have indicated on the registration form that they require financial support and have subsequently completed a bursary application form.

To be considered for a bursary place, as a guideline your household income should not exceed £60,000 per annum. Both parents are required to provide proof of their income and assets. The level of support varies according to parental need; but can extend to full fee remission in cases of proven need. Bursaries are always offered for a full academic year unless there are significant changes in circumstances during that period and all bursaries are re-assessed on an annual basis. Levels of support may vary with fluctuations in income. As demand for bursary provision often exceeds the funds available each year, applications for bursary support are prioritised according to each candidate performance in the School's main entrance examination in January. This supports the School's academic aims and enables decisions to be made transparently.

The School's practice is to allocate its entire available bursary funding on entry. The School's expectation is that parents, who do not choose to apply for a bursary at the time that their child is being assessed, will not require financial support throughout the time that their child attends the School, except in wholly unforeseen circumstances.

Guidance on applying for means tested bursaries and bursary application forms are available from the Admissions Registrar.

A Bursary may be withdrawn in accordance with the terms upon which such an award is made or in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions.

Contractual Terms & Conditions

Contractual terms and conditions are provided to parents on the offer of a place at Wolverhampton Grammar School, and are available on the School's website.

Complaints

The School hopes that neither parents nor students have complaints about the admissions process. Applicants are encouraged to raise any concerns or queries about the application process with the Admissions Registrar in the first instance. Where issues remain unresolved, they should be raised with the Head in writing.

KCR
September 2017

Next review:
September 2018