



RGS ESTD
1562
HIGH WYCOMBE

SCHOLA REGIA GRAMMATICA

Admissions Policy (Day places)

For entry in September 2020

ADMISSIONS POLICY (DAY PLACES) 2020

The admissions policy for The Royal Grammar School follows the Co-ordinated Admission Scheme for Secondary Schools in the Area of Buckinghamshire County Council Local Authority unless stated. This will be referred to as The County Scheme. The County Scheme is available on the Buckinghamshire County Council website www.buckscc.gov.uk or click [here](#) for a link. Parents wishing to apply to the school should also read this policy in conjunction with the Parents' Guide "Moving up to Secondary School", which is published by the County Council in May of each year. Please note that RGS also offers boarding places for qualified boys. Please see our Admissions Policy (Boarding) for information.

1.0 ADMISSION NUMBERS

The Planned Admission Number for Years 7 – 11 is **182** day places and **10** boarding places.¹

For Year 12, there will be **30** additional places for students who have fulfilled the entry requirement, in addition to students from the school's own Year 11 who have fulfilled the entry requirement.

2.0 11+ ADMISSION (YEAR 7 IN SEPTEMBER 2020)

Boys are eligible to be considered for admission to The Royal Grammar School in Year 7 if they meet the required qualifying score of 121 in the admission tests or have been deemed qualified by a Selection Review Panel or by an Independent Appeal Panel hearing appeals for the school. Two papers, each of approximately 45 minutes duration, are taken in the September of the year prior to proposed admission. The tests comprise elements of verbal, numerical and non-verbal ability. Each child's scores in the different elements of the tests are age standardised and added together, thus setting all children on an equal footing regardless of when their birthday falls in the year.

Registration for the test is automatic for children who attend Buckinghamshire Primary schools unless the parent expressly withdraws their child from testing. In all other cases, including where children attend independent schools in Buckinghamshire, an application for testing should be made to the Testing Administrator, Buckinghamshire County Council, by 30th June 2019.

In addition, all applicants must notify their home Local Authority of their preference for the school prior to the closing date of 31st October 2019. Evidence of the child's normal home address must be submitted to the Admissions team at Buckinghamshire County Council by 31st October 2019.

Applications for under-age or over-age testing, i.e. for a child who will not be in Year 6 at the time of the 11+ tests in September 2019, should be directed to the Admissions Department at Buckinghamshire County Council. Evidence will be required as to why under- or over-age testing is being requested, and a child's current Head teacher will normally be contacted.

Parents of any child who does not achieve the qualifying score may apply for a Selection Review if they believe that their child would have met the qualifying score but for particular circumstances regarding their participation in the Secondary Transfer Test process. The Selection Review will be carried out by a panel consisting of serving or recently retired secondary and primary Heads. The panel will consider each written application received and will obtain advice from an Educational Psychologist where appropriate prior to making a decision. The Selection Review process will take place before places are allocated and children who are deemed qualified by the panel will be eligible for admission for any of the 13 Buckinghamshire grammar schools.

After places have been allocated, parents will be entitled to make representations to an Independent Appeal Panel if their child has been refused admission because the school is full. An Independent Appeal Panel hearing will not ordinarily carry out a full review of a pupil's capacity to pass the selection test if that process took place at the Selection Review.

¹ In the event of under-subscription for boarding places, vacant places may be converted to day places.

2.1 11+ Admission Over-subscription Criteria

Where eligible applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below to decide which student to admit.

Boys who qualify and who have a statement of Special Educational Needs that names the school will be admitted prior to the application of the over-subscription criteria.

1. Looked after and previously looked after boys.²
2. Boys living in the catchment area³ of the school who qualify for Free School Meals. Boys must be in receipt of FSM on the date that registration for testing closes (31 October)
3. Brothers of boys who are on the roll of the school at the time an application is made, and who are expected to be on the roll of the school at the time of the proposed admission.⁴
4. Boys living in the catchment area of the school.³
5. Sons of a member of staff where a) the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
6. Once the rules have been applied, any further places will be offered in distance order using straight line distance between the family's normal home address and the nearest pupil entrance to the school offering the closest first (adopted County scheme).

Where the distance criterion produces an absolute tie, each boy will be admitted.

2.2 Waiting List

If any vacancies arise between National Offer Day (1st March) and 31st October of the same year, first priority will be given to those on the waiting list managed by Buckinghamshire County Council through the County Scheme. Each child added to the waiting list will require the list to be ranked again in line with the published over-subscription criteria. From 1st November until the annual round of testing (January / February), a waiting list will be maintained by the Royal Grammar School for admissions into Year 7. If places become available during that period, or for the beginning of the following academic year, admissions will be handled in accordance with the Late Transfer Procedure outlined below.

If parents decline an offer of a place, they may subsequently re-join the waiting list. The boy's name will be added onto the end of the waiting list as extant at the time of the application to re-join. This will apply until the next round of testing, when such a candidate will need to be re-tested and the waiting list is then renewed.

² Looked after children are children in the care of local authorities as defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989, and in public care at the time of application to a school. Previously looked after children were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

³ The catchment area of the school is defined in the County Scheme as illustrated on the County Council's website www.buckscc.gov.uk – it can also be found [here](#).

⁴ "Brother" means one of two (or more) children who have one or more parent in common, or any other child (including an adopted child) who lives permanently at the same address, and for whom the parent also has parental responsibility.

3.0 LATE TRANSFER PROCEDURE

Admission to Years 9 and 10 (and to Year 7 from 1st November each academic year) will be handled in accordance with the school's Late Transfer Procedure. Only in exceptional cases will any place be offered in Year 10 starting after September, or at any time in Year 11, because of the nature of GCSE courses, even when the year group is below the Planned Admission Number.

3.1 Testing Criteria

The academic eligibility of candidates seeking admission under the school's Late Transfer Procedure will be assessed through curriculum based tests in English and Mathematics for Years 7 - 10. Candidates will be required to achieve a minimum standard in each of the tests in order to be considered for admission, determined by a pass mark.

3.2 September Admission

Boys seeking admission to Years 9 and 10 at the start of the next academic year will need to apply to sit tests in the Annual Testing Round. This is organised by the school and will take place in January / February of the calendar year in which admission is sought in September. The deadline for registration for the tests will be the second Monday in January of the same year. Evidence of normal home address will be required.

3.3 Immediate Admission

Boys who have moved, or plan to move, into the local area and are seeking admission into the school before the next Annual Testing Round may apply for immediate admission to Years 7, 8 or 9 and will be tested as soon as reasonably possible. Evidence of normal home address will be required.

3.4 Late Transfer Over-subscription Criteria

Where eligible applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below to decide which student to admit.

Boys who meet the minimum qualifying standard and who have a statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) that names the school will be admitted prior to the application of the over-subscription criteria.

1. Looked after and previously looked after boys.
2. Boys with the highest aggregate score in tests taken who are in receipt of Free School Meals on the day of registration for the tests⁵. Where the aggregate score is an absolute tie, test results will be ranked in the following order: English then mathematics.
3. Brothers of boys who are on the roll of the school at the time an application is made, and who are expected to be on the roll of the school at the time of the proposed admission.
4. Sons of a member of staff where a) the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
5. Once the rules have been applied, any further places will be offered in distance order using straight line distance between the family's normal home address and the nearest pupil entrance to the school offering the closest first (adopted County scheme).

3.5 Late Transfer Waiting List

Boys who have qualified and have not been allocated a place may have their name placed on the waiting list. The waiting list will be ranked in accordance with the school's Late Transfer Over-subscription Criteria as detailed in 3.4 above. If an applicant qualifies but cannot be allocated a place because the school is full, qualification ends at the time of the next annual testing round. The applicant must then be tested again in the next Annual Testing Round.

⁵ Evidence of Free School Meals will be required.

4.0 SIXTH FORM (YEARS 12 AND 13)

4.1 Sixth Form Entry Criteria

Applications from external students should be made direct to the school using the application form for Sixth Form Admission, available on the school's website or on request to the school. Applications must be submitted by the last Friday in April of the year of the proposed admission. Evidence of normal home address will be required.

Minimum entry requirements (which are the same for both internal and external applicants) are GCSE grades as follows:

- 8 taught full GCSEs at grades 4-9 (taken in one sitting), **including English and Mathematics** at grade 5 or above and a total point score from the 8 GCSEs of a minimum of 47 points.
- In addition, candidates must meet the entry requirement for each course for which they have applied. Full details are provided in the 'Sixth Form Entry' booklet, which is revised annually, and available on the school's website or on request to the school.

4.2 Sixth Form Over-subscription Criteria

Where the number of eligible external applications exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below to decide which students to admit.

1. Students who are looked after children or previously looked after children.
2. Rank order of those with the highest UMS score in the required GCSEs.
3. Those who are currently in receipt of Free School Meals as at the application closing date. Evidence of entitlement to FSM will be required.

If the GCSE points criterion does not produce a clear outcome (i.e. two students achieve precisely the same score), the place will be determined by random allocation supervised by a person independent of the school.

Any offer based on inaccurate information can be withdrawn. This could include, fraudulent or misleading applications, false claims to residence and failure to reply to an offer within the number of days specified in the offer letter.