



STRATFORD GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Admissions Policy 2024

Disclosable under Freedom of Information Act Yes

To be published on website? Statutory Yes

Policy ownership

Governor committee: Progress and Well-being

Department responsible: Senior Leadership Team

Post-holder: (title and name) Jacqui Cornell, Headteacher

Linked procedures

Responsible person: Jacqui Cornell

Implementation date: February 2023

Planned review interval: Annually

Planned next review date: November 2023

1. General

- 1.1. Stratford Girls' Grammar School is designated a single-sex grammar school under Section 104 of the School Standards and Framework Act (1998): it is a selective single sex academy for girls aged between 11 and 18. The Governing Body of the Academy Trust is the Admission Authority and as such has formal responsibility for determining admission arrangements.
- 1.2. This policy has been drawn up to meet the requirements of the Department for Education School Admissions Code which came into force in December 2014.

2. Year 7 Entry

2.1. Introduction

Admission to the School in Year 7 will be determined by a child's performance in the Entrance Test (sometimes referred to as "the 11+" or "the selection test") and the School's oversubscription criteria. The Governing Body participates in Warwickshire County Council's co-ordinated admissions scheme for maintained secondary schools, and Warwickshire County Council's Admissions Service (Warwickshire Admissions) is contracted to administer the Year 7 Admissions Policy and procedures on the school's behalf.

For 2024, the Governors have determined, in line with the Admissions Code (2014), that the Published Admission Number (PAN) in Year 7 will be 120.

2.2. Eligibility and Oversubscription Criteria for Entry in Year 7

Eligibility:

- 2.2.1. **Gender:** since Stratford Girls' Grammar School is a single sex girls' school, eligibility for entry will be based on the child's gender being female.
- 2.2.2. **Priority Circle:** the priority circle for Stratford Girls' Grammar School (referred to as the School in this policy) is based on a circle with a radius of 16.885 miles drawn from the Fountain in Rother Street, Stratford-upon-Avon to the County boundary south of Long Compton. Evidence will be required to prove that the child is resident within the priority circle by the deadline of **11.59pm on 31st December 2023**.

Warwickshire Admissions will require, on behalf of the School, evidence of the applicant's home address. Parents/carers will be notified each time this is required. The Admissions Service may also carry out a home visit to the family to further verify an applicant's address. The School reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if it is satisfied that the offer has been made on the basis of an incorrect, fraudulent or misleading application.

- 2.2.3. **Registration for the 11+ test:** The child must have been registered for the 11+ test for the School by the deadline of 11.59pm on **30th June 2023** and completed that test; and the parent/carer must have named the School on the Common Application Form, which must have been submitted on time to the home authority.

Oversubscription criteria:

- 2.2.4. There is no guarantee of a place being available, but places up to the Published Admission Number (PAN) during the normal round of admissions (ie the first round of offers published on **1st March 2024**) will be allocated to children in the following order, where they meet the necessary academic and eligibility entry requirements, assuming that an offer from a higher preference has not been made. Those with the highest scores in each category will be given highest priority for a place.

To differentiate in the case of children with the same score in any of the following categories, those who live nearest the School in straight-line distance will be given

priority.¹ In the case of a tie-break situation where more than one child has achieved the same score, and where all home to school distances are equal, and there are not enough spaces to offer all applicants who fulfil the relevant criteria, the remaining place(s) will be allocated using a computerised random number generator. This process will be carried out by Warwickshire Admissions on behalf of the School, in the presence of a witness from Legal Services who is independent of the school and the admissions process.

The above will also apply to the waiting list after **1st March 2024**.

2.2.5. The automatic qualifying score for this School, for this particular year of entry, will be set by the Committee of Reference during the Local Review Process using the results from the 11+ test. The Required Minimum Academic Standard for the waiting list for this School, for this particular year of entry, will also be set by the Committee of Reference.

2.2.6. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC)² that names the School will be admitted first, subject to them achieving above the Required Minimum Academic Standard for this School. In this event, the number of places that remain for allocation will be reduced. Please see separate section below regarding arrangements for students with Special Educational Needs taking the Entrance Test at Year 7. Similar arrangements apply to in-year transfers and admissions to the Sixth Form.

2.2.7. Prior to **1st March 2024**, Categories 1-5 below will only relate to children whose 11+ registrations and secondary school applications have been received on time. After **1st March 2024**, these categories will then be assigned to all applicants, both on time and late, on the waiting list.

2.2.7.1. **Category 1:** Any Looked-After or Previously Looked-After Children³ who either achieve the automatic qualifying score or above for this School for this particular year of entry, or who score up to twenty marks below the Automatic Qualifying Score. If the difference between the Automatic Qualifying Score and the Required Minimum Academic Standard is more than 20 marks, any Looked-After or Previously Looked-After Children who reached the Required Minimum Academic Standard would be admitted.

2.2.7.2. **Category 2:** Children who live in the priority circle who attract the Pupil Premium via eligibility for Free School Meals⁴ who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this School for this particular year of entry or who score up to twenty marks below the Automatic Qualifying Score. Up to a total of nineteen places only will be offered to all children in this category (including any re-offers which are made from the waiting list in this category after **1st March 2024**).

Warwickshire Admissions will require, on behalf of the school, evidence of Pupil Premium eligibility and the school reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if the offer has been made on the basis of an incorrect, fraudulent or misleading application.

¹ Distance from home to school will be measured from the address point location coordinate of the home address (as set by Ordnance Survey) to the centroid of the school. The centroid is a predetermined point.

² An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the Local Authority under Section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014 specifying the educational provision required for that child.

³ A 'looked-after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear, to the School as the admission authority, to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be a state care as a result of being adopted. 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 (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

⁴ Children attracting the Pupil Premium via Free School Meals are those who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the six years prior to the closing date for test registration. See Admissions Code (2014) section 1.39A.

- 2.2.7.3. **Category 3:** Children who live within the priority circle who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this School, for this particular year of entry.
- 2.2.7.4. **Category 4:** Children living outside of the priority circle who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this School, for this particular year of entry.
- 2.2.7.5. **Category 5:** Children who score below the Automatic Qualifying Score, but above Required Minimum Academic Standard for the waiting list for this School, for this particular year of entry.

2.2.8. Residency requirement

The child's home address is the address where they are living on the date of the application. Where parental responsibilities are equally shared, the home address will be considered to be the place where the child sleeps, and spends most of their time, from Monday to Friday. This is the address that will be used to apply the School's oversubscription criteria, such as distance from the school.

Evidence required:

Warwickshire Admissions (Local Authority) will require, on behalf of the School, evidence of the applicant's home address. They will write at the beginning of **December 2023** to all parents/carers who have listed the school as a preference, requesting copies of two documents to confirm the home address. Parents/carers will have fifteen working days to provide proof of the home address. The application will be considered as late if appropriate proof is not provided within fifteen working days. The evidence required is as follows:

- Council Tax letter or statement for the current financial year - this must be supplied if you are the council taxpayer; or
- Housing Benefit letter dated within the last twelve months; or
- Utility bill, bank statement dated within the last six months or
- Car insurance certificate and policy renewal letter dated within the last twelve months.

Plus, one of the following:

- Child Benefit letter for the current financial year; or
- A letter from the Child Benefit Office which confirms that you are not in receipt of this for the child named on this letter (for current financial year); or
- All pages of your Child Tax Credit Award Notice for the current financial year; or
- A Bank Account Statement in the child's name (e.g. Savings Account) dated within the last six months; or
- A Child Trust Fund Statement in the child's name dated within the last twelve months; or
- A copy of a letter confirming a medical or dental appointment dated within the last six months.

Please note that these documents will be retained and not returned. Warwickshire Admissions will match each address with the one they have on their database. Warwickshire Admissions reserves the right to carry out random checks at any time and this may include an unannounced home visit.

Moving to a new address:

If the home address changes between applying for a school place and **31st December 2023**, Warwickshire Admissions must be provided with proof of the new address as detailed above. The child must be living at the new address by **11.59pm on 31st**

December 2023. Applicants may also need to produce evidence that the previous home is no longer used by the family, for example proof that the property has been sold or that a rental agreement has ended. This is to show that the new address is not a temporary arrangement purely to secure a school place.

If the home address changes after **31st December 2023**, the new address can only be taken into account after National Offer Day on **1st March 2024** and the application will be considered in the same way as a late application.

The School will also check the child's home address at the time of admission. If it is different from the application address then further checks will be carried out. This will include consideration as to whether or not the address used to make an application was temporary and purely to secure a school place.

If a school place is offered based on fraudulent or intentionally misleading information, the offer may be withdrawn, even if the child has started at the School. Those who submit fraudulent or deliberately misleading applications may also be subject to legal proceedings. If it is discovered that the home address is not in Warwickshire, the application will be withdrawn altogether and the family will then have to apply to their home Local Authority.

2.3. The Entrance Test

2.3.1 Consortium of Grammar Schools

This School is part of a consortium of schools using a common Entrance Test in **September 2023** for entry to Year 7 in **September 2024**. The consortium includes this School, the five other Grammar Schools in Warwickshire (including Ashlawn which as a bilateral school offers selective and non-selective places), and the eight Grammar Schools in Birmingham (these are individual schools but for the purposes of the Entrance Test are collectively known as 'The Grammar Schools in Birmingham').

Warwickshire County Council's Admissions Service (Warwickshire Admissions) operates the Entrance Test along with The Grammar Schools in Birmingham. Some parents/carers may be considering listing Grammar Schools in both Warwickshire and Birmingham on their Common Application Form (CAF). As admission to these schools will be determined by the same test, on the same day, it is not possible for students to sit the test more than once. If it is discovered a student has sat the test more than once, the score from the earliest test will be used. Parents/carers should be aware that in such situations the application may be considered fraudulent or intentionally misleading and where a place has been offered, it may be withdrawn.

Parents/Carers whose children sit the test in Warwickshire may request that their raw score is shared with The Grammar Schools in Birmingham. This can be done as part of the registration process. Parents/Carers should only request this if they are considering applying for a place in a Birmingham Grammar School.

Parents/Carers whose children sit the test in Birmingham may request that their raw score is shared with Warwickshire Admissions. This can be done as part of the registration process. Parents/Carers should only request this if they are considering applying for a place in a Warwickshire Grammar School (including a selective place at Ashlawn School). In either of these cases parents/carers will receive two sets of results. One set of results will be received from Warwickshire Admissions. A further set of results will be received from The Grammar Schools in Birmingham.

Where a parent/carer indicates after the registration closing date, **11.59pm on 30th June 2023**, that they wish their child's test score to be shared with either Warwickshire

Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham, their registration will be considered late for the region they wish their results to be shared with.

2.3.2 Registering for the test

Parents/Carers living in Warwickshire should register for the test with Warwickshire Admissions. Parents/Carers living in Birmingham should register for the test with The Grammar Schools in Birmingham. Parents/carers living in other authorities should register for the test in the region in which they would most like their child to attend a school.

Parents/carers will be able to register for the test from **8th May 2023**. It is recommended that parents/carers do this online. Paper copies of the registration form will also be available from Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham. If you are posting a registration form you are strongly advised to take steps to ensure your form is received prior to the deadline, such as recorded delivery. Please ensure that any recorded delivery receipt has the postcode printed electronically on it.

Parents/carers should be aware that registering for the 11+ test is not the same as applying for a school place – see the section ‘Applications for a School Place’ (2.3.9). Parents/carers must submit an application for a place to their home local authority by **11.59pm on 31st October 2023**. Failure to do so will mean your application is considered late even if your 11+ registration was submitted on time.

The closing date for registration is **11.59pm on 30th June 2023**. All registrations will be acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within 14 working days you should contact either Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham (depending on to whom you originally submitted your registration form).

Details of test venues will be sent by Warwickshire Admissions to families who registered their child to sit the test via Warwickshire by the deadline from **14th August 2023**. Packs will be sent in batches throughout August. If you registered your child for the entrance test by the published deadline and you have not received an invitation pack by **25th August 2023** then you must contact Warwickshire Admissions as a matter of urgency. This will include a ‘Fit and Well’ sheet which must be brought to the test session with a photograph of the child sitting the test. This photograph must be signed and dated by the Headteacher of your child’s school⁵. Warwickshire Admissions reserves the right to contact your child’s school and to share the photograph with them for the purposes of establishing proof of identity as part of the entrance test process.

Parents/carers registering for the test with The Grammar Schools in Birmingham will receive details of their child’s test venue along with acknowledgement of their registration.

If your registration form is received prior to the closing date but is not fully completed it will be considered as late. If your form is received after the closing date it will be considered as late unless exceptional circumstances can be evidenced. If your child is sitting the test in a Warwickshire venue and you arrive at the test session without a photograph of your child which is signed and dated by the Headteacher of your child’s school⁵, they will not be able to sit the test on that day and your registration will be considered as late. If you indicate after the registration closing date that you wish for your child’s test score to be shared with either Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham, your registration will be considered as late for the region you wish your child’s results to be shared with.

⁵ If home educated, signed by an individual working in, or retired from, a recognised profession as per the accepted list of counter-signatories for UK passport applications.

If your registration is considered to be late your child will not be tested until after 1st March 2024. Those registering late are treated the same as those submitting a late application for a school place.

If your form is received after the closing date of **11.59pm on 30th June 2023** it will only be treated as on time for this School if you can provide evidence of a move of address into the priority circle by **11.59pm on 31st December 2023**.

2.3.3 Candidate age

If your daughter was born between **1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013** you may apply for her to sit the test for entry in **September 2024**. Parents/Carers may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group if they believe their child has exceptional circumstances. Parents/Carers should refer to the Warwickshire Local Authority's "Educated out of Year Group request form" and guidance. Anyone considering making such an application for any Year Group should follow the relevant application process as detailed in this policy for that Year Group. The child will be tested in accordance with arrangements set out in the Policy and an admission decision will be taken by the Governing Body of the School as the Admissions Authority based on the circumstance of the case and with reference to the best interests of the child.

Candidates may sit the Entrance Test once only.

2.3.4 The Test

The main 11+ testing sessions will be held in September, with both morning and afternoon sessions being organised, where this is required. Your daughter will only be invited to one testing session.

There will be two papers, each of approximately 45 minutes. The papers will be divided into smaller, individually timed sections, which test Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numeracy.

For each paper, the children will be given a question booklet which contains the test questions and a separate answer sheet to mark their answers. The answer sheets will be processed electronically and scanned to make a record of each child's answers. A familiarisation booklet, containing information about the format of the test and some example questions, will be available on the Warwickshire Admissions website and in paper form on request. This will allow children to become familiar with the type of questions likely to be asked and the format of the test booklet and answer sheet, and information about how to write their answers on the answer sheet.

2.3.5 Special Arrangements

Parents/carers whose children have a disability and or require special resources to sit the test must request this in writing by completing the Warwickshire Local Authority Access Arrangements request form. Parents/carers will be required to describe the child's disability and/or extra resources required to sit the test and must also supply detailed medical or professional evidence. Every effort will be made to accommodate disabled students sitting the Entrance Test. Forms are available from, and must be returned to, either Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham (depending with whom you are registering for the Entrance Test) by **11.59pm on 30th June 2023**. Parents/carers making such a request will be notified by the end of **July 2023** whether or not their request has been agreed.

Parents/carers whose child is not able to sit the test on a Saturday or Sunday for religious reasons must indicate this to the Admissions Service when registering for the

test and supply a supporting letter from their religious leader. These children will be tested on an alternative date.

2.3.6 **Illness**

If your daughter is ill on the test day and is unable to sit the test, you must notify either Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham (depending with whom you have registered for the Entrance Test) by **11.59pm on the Monday immediately following the test**. A medical note (scanned copy, faxed or hand delivered) **must** be submitted by **noon on the Wednesday immediately following the test** for an alternative date to be arranged and for the registration to remain as on time. If sufficient evidence is not received by this date then the registration for your daughter to sit the entrance test will be withdrawn. If you still wish for your daughter to sit the 11+ test you must submit a new registration and this will be classed as late. Late candidates will not be tested until after **1st March 2024**.

2.3.7 **Additional Test Sessions**

Supplementary testing sessions will be held where sufficient evidence has been provided to Warwickshire Admissions to show the child had a fixed prior engagement, suffered an unforeseen circumstance (such as being unwell on the original test date allocated) or the family moved house by the extended deadline of **31st December**. Sessions will also be arranged for parents/carers registering for the test after Offer Day and parents/carers are asked to contact Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham in these circumstances.

2.3.8 **Results**

Data from all students sitting the test will be used to produce standardised scores. Weightings will be applied to the scores achieved in Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numeracy. The weightings applied to the 11+ test scores for each year of entry are determined by the School.

From **16th October 2023** you will have been notified of your child's score in the Entrance Test. Parents/carers who registered their child for the 11+ test online will be able to view their child's test results through the Local Authority's online portal. Parents/Carers who registered their child for the 11+ test by submitting a paper registration form will be sent their child's test results through the post.

Additional information about the 11+ test, which is aimed to assist parents/carers in completing the child's secondary school application, will also be available on the Local Authority's website. Parents/Carers who have either registered with Warwickshire Admissions (or have asked that their child's score be shared with Warwickshire Admissions) will receive the following information from Warwickshire Admissions:

- Your child's total standardised score broken down by performance in Verbal Reasoning, Numeracy, and Non-Verbal Reasoning.
- The Automatic Qualifying Scores and Required Minimum Academic Standard for each Warwickshire Grammar School for the previous year where the same weightings have been applied for the three sections. These can be used for comparison purposes but there can be no guarantee that any child, including those scoring above the required score for previous years, will be offered a Grammar School place.

Parents/Carers who have either registered with The Grammar Schools in Birmingham (or have asked that their child's score be shared with The Grammar Schools in Birmingham) will receive an additional letter showing their child's test score and the minimum score required for entry in the previous year, together with the qualifying score

for those schools who have set such a score. Warwickshire's Grammar Schools and The Grammar Schools in Birmingham may choose to use different weightings. This means that if your child receives two result letters, their total scores could be different.

2.3.9 Applications for a school place

Once parents/carers have received their child's test result they must apply for a school place via their home Local Authority (this is the Local Authority to whom you pay your Council Tax). Warwickshire residents can name up to six schools (preferences) on their application form. All Local Authorities operate an equal preference system and your child will be offered a place at the highest preference possible. What this means is that if you list a Grammar School as your first preference but your child does not do sufficiently well in the Entrance Test, it will not affect the likelihood of your child being offered a place at any other school you have listed.

2.4. Allocation of Places

2.4.1 Once papers have been marked, children are listed in standardised and weighted score order.

2.4.2 Committee of Reference

In South Warwickshire the Committee of Reference sets the Automatic Qualifying Score taking account of the applications for the individual schools and the number of places available. The Committee of Reference is a panel of Headteachers and teachers appointed according to terms of reference. The Heads of the selective schools in South Warwickshire or their representatives will be members of the Committee. The Committee also reviews the arrangements made for any children with disabilities or Special Educational Needs.

2.4.3 Required Minimum Academic Standard and Automatic Qualifying Score:

- 2.4.3.1 In determining the Required Minimum Academic Standard and the Automatic Qualifying Score for the School, the Committee of Reference will consider the aptitude of the cohort, the categories of the oversubscription criteria and the Published Admission Number for the relevant year of entry. Places will be allocated in line with the School's Published Admission Number, where the Committee deem the aptitude of those to be allocated places are commensurate with cohorts previously admitted to the School.
 - 2.4.3.2 Above and at the Automatic Qualifying Score, a child will receive an offer from their highest named preference of selective school (subject to living within the priority circle, not being a late entry or having an offer from a higher preference of school). Those at and above the Required Minimum Academic Standard, but below the Automatic Qualifying Score, will be placed on the waiting list.
 - 2.4.3.3 The available places will be offered in accordance with the admission criteria in the first round of offers - on National Offer Day - which is **1st March 2024**. Children living outside the priority circle will be offered places in the first round only if there are insufficient children of the required level of ability living within the priority circle. Children living outside the priority circle, late registrations and late applications will normally only be offered places in the second or subsequent round of offers, subject to their position on the waiting list and a vacancy occurring.
- 2.4.4 No consideration will be given in the case of twins (or triplets etc) where one child has been allocated a place because they scored above the Automatic Qualifying Score but the other(s) was/were below it.

2.4.5 **Waiting lists**

After the initial round of offers, made on **1st March 2024**, further places may become available – if, for example, parents/carers take up places for their daughter at another school. These places will be offered from the waiting list, up to the Published Admission Number (PAN) of the School, in line with the reallocation dates as outlined in the coordinated scheme.

The waiting list order will follow the same criteria as outlined in Categories 1-5 above, but will also include any applicant who registered late for the 11+ test, or who submitted a late secondary school application.

Any child who is made an offer for a school which was listed lower on their secondary school application than Stratford Girls' Grammar School will automatically be added to the waiting list, provided that the child achieved the Required Minimum Academic Standard for the waiting list for this School, for this particular year of entry, in the 11+ test.

In accordance with the Admissions Code (2014), waiting lists will be held for one term until **31st December 2024**. Children aged 12 or under will continue to be tested using the 11+ test until the waiting list is dissolved on **31st December 2024**. (Please note that children already aged 12 will have the oldest age weighting applied to their score and will then be ranked against the other children who have taken the test).

After **31st December 2024**, the 11+ test will continue to be used for children under the age of 12. For children aged 12 or over the School will instead arrange for them to sit tests in English and Mathematics to judge academic suitability against the rest of the cohort. See Section 3 - In-Year Applications for Years 7 to 11.

2.4.6 **Offers**

Offers will be made on **1st March 2024** by the child's home authority as per the coordinated secondary school scheme. Subject to the arrangements of the home authority, parents/carers will be expected to accept the offer within two weeks of the offer being made. A further letter reminding parents/carers will be sent before the child is withdrawn from the offer list. As well as the offer from their home authority, parents/carers who registered with Warwickshire Admissions will receive an additional letter confirming the child's score, along with the Automatic Qualifying Score and Required Minimum Academic Standard for the waiting list for each Warwickshire Grammar School.

2.4.7 **Appeals**

Parents/Carers of all children refused places will be notified of their right of appeal via their home Local Authority. Appeals are held before an independent panel.

2.4.8 **Admissions above the Published Admission Number (PAN)**

Under the Admissions Code (2014), Admissions Authorities including Stratford Girls' Grammar School may admit above their PAN. If they do so, they must notify the Local Authority of their intention to do so. They may also admit above PAN In-Year.

2.4.9 **Fair Access Protocol (FAP)**

Warwickshire Local Authority has developed a FAP with Headteachers. Stratford Girls' Grammar School has adopted the protocol and its provisions are recognised by the School as the Admissions Authority and incorporated into these admission arrangements.

2.5 Information and Important Dates for Parents/Carers

- 2.5.1 During the Summer term of **2023** parents/carers of all the children in Year 5 in Warwickshire primary/junior schools will be issued with a leaflet, relevant to their area, about the process of selection. Parents/carers will be asked to register if they want their child to be tested. Parents/carers of children not attending those schools can contact Warwickshire Admissions to request that information or visit the Warwickshire Admissions website from **8th May 2023**.
- 2.5.2 Parents/Carers whose children have a disability and/or require special resources to sit the Entrance Test must complete a supplementary form as well as a registration form and submit these to Warwickshire Admissions or the Grammar Schools in Birmingham (depending with whom you are registering for the Entrance Test) by **11.59pm on 30th June 2023**.
- 2.5.3 **The closing date** for registering for selection tests for all the selective schools in Warwickshire is **11.59pm on 30th June 2023**. Registration after that date will be considered as late. An exception will be made for parents/carers who can provide evidence of a move of address into the priority circle by **11.59pm on 31st December 2023**. Late registrations will only be considered after the first round of offers and may not be tested before the National Offer Day.
- 2.5.4 **The main testing session** will take place in **September 2023**.
- 2.5.5 Applications will be made on the home authority's CAF as part of the co-ordinated process with neighbouring authorities. As set out in the Schools Admissions Code (2014), **31st October** is the national closing date for secondary applications. Applications received after this date will be considered late and will not be processed until after **1st March 2024**. An exception will be made for children moving into the priority circle where independent evidence can be provided by **11.59pm on 31st December 2023**.

3 In-Year Applications for Years 7 to 11

- 3.1 Change of School application forms must be submitted to Warwickshire Admissions. These will be processed on a first-come first-serve basis. If two or more applications are received on the same day, a random generator will be used to determine which application is processed first.
- 3.2 Children moving into the area or currently living in the area who have not previously been tested and who are applying for a place in Year 7 prior to the waiting list being dissolved on **31st December 2024**, will be tested using the 11+ test and ranked against other children who have taken the test. Where such a child is already 12 the oldest weighting will be applied to their score.
- 3.3 Children moving into the area or currently living in the area who have not previously been tested and who are applying for a place in Year 7 once the waiting list has been dissolved on **31st December 2023** will be required to take tests in English and Mathematics arranged by the School. Parents/Carers will be notified of the date of the tests within 15 school days of their in-year application being received by the School. A place will be offered, subject to availability, if the applicant's performance satisfies the School's Admissions Committee that the child's ability is commensurate with that of the cohort into which she is seeking admission.
- 3.4 New applications from children who have already been tested and refused entry as non-qualifiers will generally be considered by taking into account the existing test results. A retest will be used only where there are grounds and evidence to doubt the validity of the original tests in determining the applicant's aptitude. No waiting lists are held by the school after **31st December** of Year 7.

3.5 Any place offered must be taken up within six school weeks of the offer having been made. In the event of this not happening, the offer is void.

3.6 Appeals

The parents/carers of all children refused places will be notified that they have a right of appeal through an independent appeal panel. For children not qualifying for places the appeal will take account of the compatibility of the child's position in the process. If there are insufficient applicants reaching the appropriate level, the school does not have to fill all the places. Therefore, the case for prejudice to the efficient education or the efficient use of resources will only be considered once the School is full in the appropriate Year Group.

4 Sixth Form Entry Requirements

4.1 Stratford Girls' Grammar School has a single-sex Sixth Form and welcomes applications for entry from external female candidates.

4.2 The priority circle does not apply for entry into the Sixth Form. Students may be admitted into the Sixth Form irrespective of where they live.

4.3 Entry Criteria

4.3.1 The Published Admission Number (PAN) for external students joining Year 12 in **2024** is 50, giving a planned cohort size of 125.

4.3.2 Entry to Year 12 is on the basis of academic ability demonstrated by achievement at GCSE. Confirmed places in Year 12 can therefore only be allocated following GCSE Results Day in August 2024.

4.3.3 To obtain a place in Year 12 students require a **minimum of 54 points** from their best eight GCSE results⁶ using the new GCSE points system of Grades 9-1.

4.3.4 SGGGS Year 11 students (i.e. students in Year 11 at Stratford Girls' Grammar School) who meet the entry criteria for Sixth Form will automatically obtain a place.

4.4 Oversubscription criteria

4.4.1 There is no guarantee of a place being available in Year 12 for external applicants. Following publication of GCSE results in **August 2024**, places up to the Published Admission Number (PAN) will be allocated to students who meet the entry criteria in the following order, subject to maximum set sizes not being exceeded in individual subjects:

4.4.1.1 **Category 1:** Any Looked-After or Previously Looked-After Children³ who meet the entry criteria for the Sixth Form. In the case of a tie-break situation where two or more applicants have met the criteria equally the remaining place(s) will be allocated, subject to maximum set sizes not being exceeded in individual subjects, by the use of a random number generator.

4.4.1.2 **Category 2:** Children attracting the Pupil Premium⁴ via free school meals pupil premium who meet the entry criteria for Sixth Form. In the case of a tie-break situation where two or more applicants have met the entry criteria equally the remaining place(s) will be allocated, subject to maximum set sizes not being exceeded in individual subjects, by the use of a random number generator.

⁶ If applicants for sixth form are holding qualifications other than GCSEs (for example if they have been educated outside of the English education system) their qualifications will be assessed against GCSE points scores in accordance with guidance from UK NARIC (the designated United Kingdom national agency for the recognition and comparison of international qualifications and skills) and their application ranked against the oversubscription criteria accordingly. In these circumstances, each individual subject qualification will be accepted as one of the best eight GCSEs (up to a maximum of 9 points per qualification).

- 4.4.1.3 **Category 3:** External applicants who meet the entry criteria. Following the publication of GCSE results in **August 2024**, external applicants who meet the entry criteria will be ordered according to the total points from their best eight GCSE results. Places in Year 12 will then be offered in order of priority, subject to maximum set sizes not being exceeded in individual subjects.

In the case of a tie-break situation where two or more applicants have met the entry criteria equally the remaining place(s) will be allocated, subject to maximum set sizes not being exceeded in individual subject, by the use of a random number generator.

- 4.4.1.4 **Category 4:** Any Looked-After or Previously Looked-After Children³ who achieve up to four points below the entry criteria. Students are admitted based on the availability of places in the teaching sets for each subject. In the case of a tie-break situation where two or more applicants have met the entry criteria equally the remaining place(s) will be allocated, subject to maximum set sizes not being exceeded in individual subjects, by the use of a random number generator.

- 4.4.1.5 **Category 5:** Children attracting the Pupil Premium⁴ via free school meals pupil premium who achieve up to four points below the entry criteria. Students are admitted based on the availability of places in the teaching sets for each subject. In the case of a tie-break situation where two or more applicants have met the entry criteria equally the remaining place(s) will be allocated, subject to maximum set sizes not being exceeded in individual subjects, by the use of a random number generator.

- 4.4.2 It is important to note that as a result of over-subscription, the school may not be able to offer places to all external applicants who meet the minimum entry criteria. A waiting list will be compiled of external applicants who, in accordance with the criteria given above, cannot initially be offered places. This list will be maintained until **31st December 2024**.

- 4.4.3 The School's Admissions Committee will make the final decision on admissions to Year 12.

4.5 Application Procedures

- 4.5.1 A Sixth Form Open Evening will be held in **November 2023**. This will be publicised through the school's social media and website, plus the local press. Details about the Sixth Form and our courses will be available from the School and on the School's website.
- 4.5.2 **External applicants** must complete an Application Form and return it to the Head of Sixth Form at any time between the Sixth Form Open Evening and the deadline, which is **12.00 noon on 9th February 2024**.
- 4.5.3 **External applicants** are required to submit predicted grades supplied by their current school with their applications. The School uses the predicted grades to determine the relative position of each student within the cohort. Those at the top of the cohort, and therefore most likely to receive offers of places in Year 12 following GCSE Results Day, are sent invitations in **March 2024** to a Familiarisation Day in **June 2024** and invited to attend for a pre-sixth form meeting at the School to discuss their individual requirements and subject choices. Please note that an invitation is not an offer of a place as places in Year 12 are only allocated on the basis of GCSE results published in August (see 4.4) and the pre-sixth form meeting has no bearing on the allocation of places. On the same basis, those without an invitation are not being refused a place and will be considered equally when GCSE results are published in **August 2024** and places are offered.

- 4.5.4 **Stratford Girls' Grammar School (SGGS) Year 11** must complete a Transition Form and return it to the Head of Sixth Form at any time between the Sixth Form Open Evening and the deadline, which is **12.00 noon on 9th February 2024**.
- 4.5.5 Applications received after **12.00 noon on 9th February 2024** will still be considered. However, late applicants will have to wait until the publication of GCSE results and the allocation of places (see 4.4).
- 4.5.6 Following the publication of GCSE results, any SGGS Year 11 student who does not meet the entry criteria will be counselled about their options post-16.

4.6 Appeals

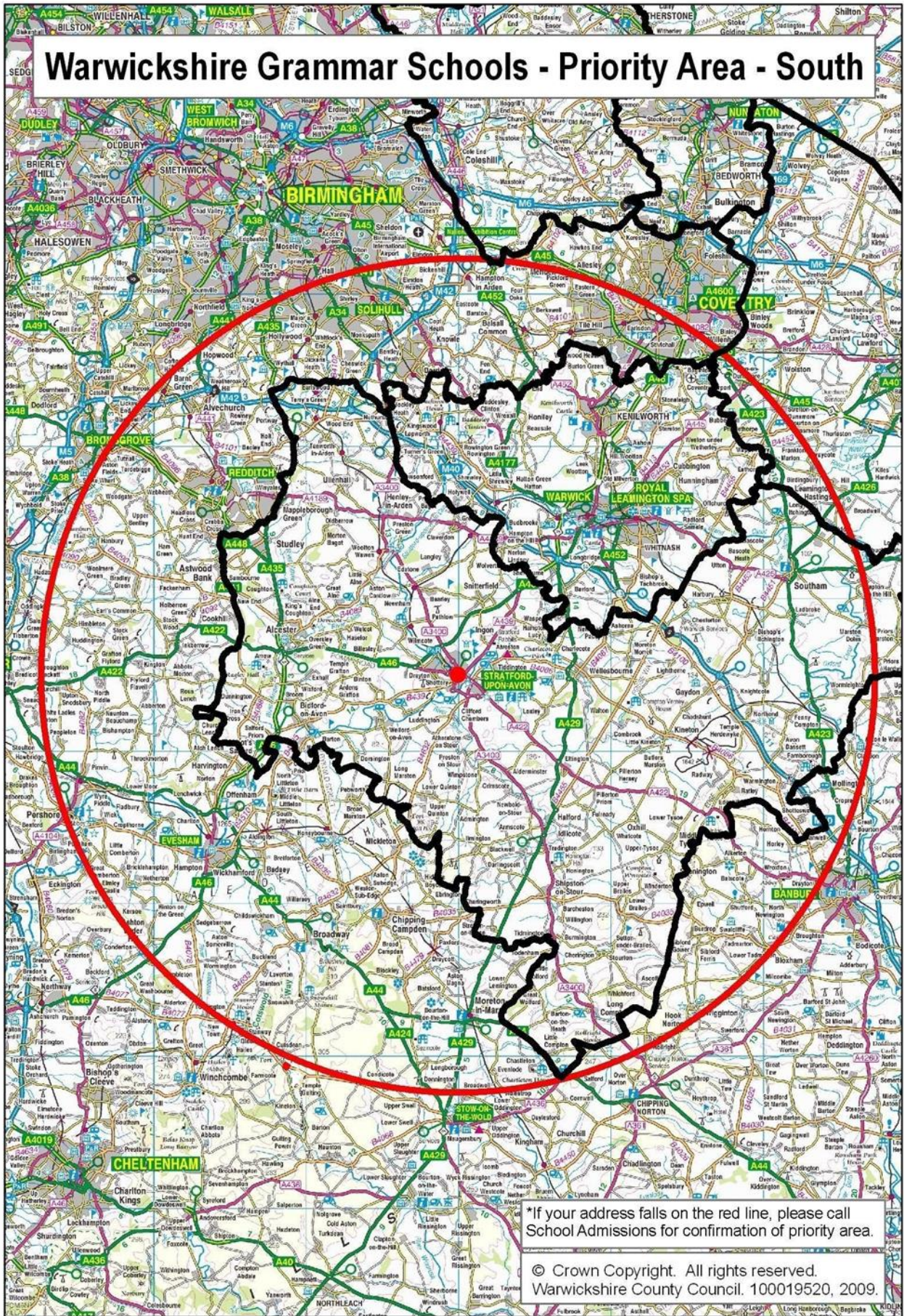
All applicants refused places will be notified that they have a right of appeal through an independent appeal panel. For applicants not qualifying for places, the appeal will take account of the compatibility of the applicant's position in the process. If there are insufficient applicants meeting the entry requirements, the School does not have to fill all the places. Therefore, the case for prejudice to the efficient education or the efficient use of resources will only be considered once Year 12 has reached the Published Admission Number.

5 Transport

It is strongly recommended that parents/carers/applicants establish the cost and availability of transport to the School if it is intended to use a bus or train service (public or otherwise), before an application is made for admission.

Further information on Warwickshire transport policy and application process can be found on the Warwickshire County Council website.

Warwickshire Grammar Schools - Priority Area - South



*If your address falls on the red line, please call School Admissions for confirmation of priority area.

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