



LAWRENCE SHERIFF SCHOOL
Home of Coventry and Warwickshire Teaching School Hub

RUGBY

Lawrence Sheriff School Admissions Policy 2027-2028

Introduction

Lawrence Sheriff School is a boys' grammar school with academy status, with a co-educational sixth form. Admissions are based on a process of selection having regard to children's academic ability. In Rugby there are two other academically selective schools: a girls' grammar school with academy status (Rugby High School) and a mixed bilateral academy (Ashlawn).

The school has a Published Admission Number of 150 places in Year 7 for 2027-2028. The school has a Published Admission Number of 75 places in Year 12 for 2027-2028.

Formal responsibility for determining admissions rests with the school's Trustees. However, in discharging these responsibilities in relation to Year 7 the Trustees have engaged Warwickshire County Council's Admissions Service (Warwickshire Admissions) to operate the process on the school's behalf.

This policy has been drawn up to meet the requirements of the Department for Education School Admissions Code which came into force in September 2021.

A hard copy of the admissions policy will be provided on request for those who do not have access to the internet. If required, please telephone the School Office on 01788 843700 to request a copy.

Providing information to Parents

During the summer term of 2026 Warwickshire County Council will publicise the admission and selection process.

Eligibility and Oversubscription Criteria for Entry in Year 7

Candidate Age

If your child was born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 you may apply for them to sit the test for entry in September 2027. See Section on “Admission outside their normal age group”, if appropriate.

Eligibility and Catchment Areas

A map, setting out the respective catchment areas is attached (see Appendix 1 for further important details of the residency rules). The two catchment areas which are used to apply the oversubscription criteria are as follows:

1. The Eastern Area of Warwickshire - this is described as the following (being the aggregated catchment areas of Bilton, Ashlawn and Avon Valley Schools):

Rugby plus the parishes of Dunchurch, Cawston, Thurlaston, Leamington Hastings, Birdingbury, Grandborough, Wolfhamcote, Willoughby, Binley Woods, Brinklow, Brandon and Bretford, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Bubbenhall, Wolston, Church Lawford, Long Lawford, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, Princethorpe, Frankton, Marton, Bourton and Draycote, Churchover, Clifton-upon-Dunsmore, Combe Fields, Cosford, Easenhall, Harborough Magna, Kings Newnham, Little Lawford, Monks Kirby, Newton and Biggin, Pailton, Stretton-under-Fosse, Wibtoft, Willey, Withybrook.

2. The Priority Circle - the centre of which is the Rugby Water Tower and has a radius of 10.004 miles (this includes the Eastern Area).

Eligibility for entry to Year 7 is dependent on the child’s sex being male. Evidence will be requested to prove whether the child is resident within the catchment areas by the deadline of 23.59 on 31 December 2026. Failure to provide the correct documentation by this date will result in the application being regarded as late¹. 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. Warwickshire Admissions may also carry out a home visit to the family to further verify an applicant’s address. Similarly, where relevant, Warwickshire Admissions will require, on behalf of the School, evidence that a child is eligible under the oversubscription criteria, ie that they are Looked After/Previously Looked After, are eligible for the Pupil Premium or are eligible for the Service Premium (see ‘Oversubscription Criteria’ section for definitions). The School reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if it is established that the offer has been made on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application.

¹ unless the residency documentation is deemed to have been submitted on time. This will only happen in circumstances where the parent makes a written application to Warwickshire Admissions for an exception to be made to this rule and Warwickshire Admissions accepts that there were exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the parent/carer from meeting the deadline.

The child must have been registered for the entrance test for the School by the deadline of 16.00 on 30 June 2026 and completed that test; and the parent/carer must have named the school on the Common Application Form, which must have been submitted by 23.59 on 31 October 2026 to the home authority; and the correct residency documentation must have been provided by the deadline of 23.59 on 31 December 2026. Late entrance test registrations and/or late secondary school applications and/or late/incorrect residency documentation will mean that your son will not be considered in the first round of offers.²

Oversubscription Criteria

The catchment areas referred to in the oversubscription criteria (ie, the Eastern Area of Warwickshire and the Priority Circle) are as defined in the section Eligibility and Catchment Areas.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan³ (EHCP) naming the school must be admitted and this could therefore reduce the number of places available. There is no guarantee of a place being available, but places up to the Published Admission Number will be allocated in the following order, where children meet the necessary academic and eligibility entry requirements, assuming that an offer from a higher preference has not been made:

Criterion 1 – Looked after children and previously looked after children who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry, or between one and twenty marks below the Automatic Qualifying Score, or who achieve the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list), whichever is the lower. [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) at the time of making an application to a school. A previously looked after child is a child who was looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order⁴ including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England⁵ and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.]

² unless the registration and/or application and/or residency documentation are deemed to be on time. This will only happen in circumstances where the parent makes a written application to Warwickshire Admissions for an exception to be made to this rule and Warwickshire Admissions accepts that there were exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the parent/carer from meeting the deadline. In such circumstances, as outlined above, a test date may not be confirmed immediately but will be scheduled to take place before 31 January 2027 so that the child's application can still be considered as part of the coordinated admissions scheme.

³ 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 special education, health and social care provision required for that child.

⁴ An adoption order is an order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders). A 'child arrangements order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by Section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

⁵ A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

Criterion 2 – Up to 30 places will be allocated to children who were eligible for the Pupil Premium⁶ at the point of registering to sit the entrance test living in the Eastern Area of Warwickshire or the Priority Circle, who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry, or whose scores are between one and twenty marks below the Automatic Qualifying Score for this school for this particular year of entry, or who achieve the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list), whichever is the lower (including any re-offers which are made from the waiting list in this criterion after 1 March 2027, provided that the total number of places held under Criterion 2 and Criterion 7 does not exceed 30 places).

Criterion 3 – Up to 5 places will be allocated to children who were eligible for the Service Premium⁷ at the point of registering to sit the entrance test living in the Eastern Area of Warwickshire or the Priority Circle, who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry, or whose scores are between one and twenty marks below the Automatic Qualifying Score for this school, for this particular year of entry, or who achieve the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list), whichever is the lower (including any re-offers which are made from the waiting list in this criterion after 1 March 2027, provided that the total number of places held under Criterion 3 and Criterion 8 does not exceed 5 places).

Criterion 4 – Children of staff who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry where 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. This will apply to all teaching and non-teaching staff on permanent contracts but excludes casual/temporary appointments (eg invigilators and peripatetic staff). ‘Children’ will include natural children, step children, foster children and adopted children, as well as children of the member of staff’s partner living permanently at the same address (this will also include cases where the child’s residency is shared with another parent).

Criterion 5 – Children living in the Eastern Area of Warwickshire who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry.

Criterion 6 – Children living in the Priority Circle who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry.

Criterion 7 – If the PAN has not been reached and fewer than 30 places were offered under Criterion 2, then the balance of those 30 places will be offered to students who were eligible for the Pupil Premium (as previously defined) at the point of registering to sit the entrance test living outside the catchment areas who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry, or whose scores are between one and twenty marks below the Automatic Qualifying Score for this school for this particular year of entry, or who achieve the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on

⁶ The pupil premium is additional funding paid annually to schools under section 14 of the Education Act 2002 for the purposes of supporting the attainment of disadvantaged children.

⁷ The service premium is additional funding paid annually to schools under section 14 of the Education Act 2002 for the purposes of supporting the pastoral needs of the children of Armed Services personnel

the waiting list), whichever is the lower (including any re-offers which are made from the waiting list in this criterion after 1 March 2027, provided that the total number of places held under Criterion 2 and Criterion 7 does not exceed 30 places).

Criterion 8 – If the PAN has not been reached and fewer than 5 places were offered under Criterion 3, then the balance of those places will be offered to students who were eligible for the Service Premium (as previously defined) at the point of registering to sit the entrance test living outside the catchment areas who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry, or whose scores are between one and twenty marks below the Automatic Qualifying Score for this school for this particular year of entry, or who achieve the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list), whichever is the lower (including any re-offers which are made from the waiting list in this criterion after 1 March 2027, provided that the total number of places held under Criterion 3 and Criterion 8 does not exceed 5 places).

Criterion 9 – Children living outside of the catchment areas who achieve the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for this school for this particular year of entry.

Criterion 10 – Children living inside or outside of the catchment areas who achieve the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list) for this school for this particular year of entry.

Within all criteria first priority is given to those achieving the highest score in the entrance test. In the case of a tied score priority will be given to children who were eligible for the Pupil Premium/Service Premium at the date of registering to sit the entrance test. Where there is a further need to split any criterion or group of children, places will be offered in accordance with distance between the child's home and school (shortest distance = highest priority). Distance will be calculated by the straight line measurement from the address point coordinate of the applicant's home address (as set by Ordnance Survey) to the centre point ("centroid") of the school (located at the centre of the doorway to the Headteacher's Office). (All distances are subject to changes which may occur with updates of mapping data). This applies equally to those living inside and outside the County's boundary. Where there is a further need to split any criterion places will be offered by random allocation, ie allocated using a computerised random number generator (the applicant with the lowest number will be offered the place). 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. A fresh round of random allocation will be used each time a child is to be offered a place and two or more applicants cannot otherwise be separated.

The Entrance Test

Introduction

Admission to this school will be determined by the school's oversubscription criteria and a child's performance in the Entrance Test (sometimes referred to as the '11+ test' or the 'selection test').

Please note: *The School reserves the right to alter the test dates indicated within this policy due to exceptional circumstances beyond our control. Any such changes would be publicised on the school website.*

Consortium of Grammar Schools

This school is part of a consortium of schools (The West Midlands Grammar Schools - <https://westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk/schools/>) using a common entrance test in September 2026 for entry to Year 7 in September 2027. 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), 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') and the five grammar schools within Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall.

Warwickshire County Council's Admissions Service (Warwickshire Admissions) operates the entrance test along with the grammar schools in Birmingham/Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall. Some parents/carers may be considering listing grammar schools in Warwickshire and Birmingham/Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall on their Common Application Form (CAF). As admission to these schools will be determined by the same test, students are not permitted to sit the test more than once. **If it is discovered a child 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/Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall. 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/Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall grammar school.**

Parents/Carers whose children sit the test in Birmingham/Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall 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 more than one set of results. One set of results will be received from Warwickshire Admissions. Further sets of results will be received from the Grammar schools in Birmingham/Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall.

Where a parent/carer indicates **after** the registration closing date of 16.00 on 30 June 2026 that they wish their child's test score to be shared with either Warwickshire Admissions or the grammar schools of Birmingham/Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall, their registration will be considered late for the region they wish their results to be shared with, unless the request is deemed to be on time. This will only happen in circumstances where the parent makes a written application to Warwickshire

Admissions for an exception to be made to this rule and Warwickshire Admissions accepts that there were exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the parent/carer from meeting the deadline.

Registering for the test

Parents/Carers living in Warwickshire **must** register for the test with Warwickshire Admissions. Parents/Carers living in Birmingham **must** register for the test with The Grammar Schools in Birmingham. Parents/Carers living in Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall must register with those grammar schools. 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, **eg if you live in Northamptonshire and want your child to attend a grammar school in Warwickshire, you should register your child with Warwickshire to sit the test in Warwickshire.**

Parents/Carers will be able to register for the test **from 7 May 2026**. It is recommended that parents/carers do this on-line at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions. Paper copies of the registration form will also be available from Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham or the Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall grammar schools. 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 entrance test is not the same as applying for a school place – see the section ‘Applications for a School Place’. Parents/Carers must submit an application for a place to their home local authority by 23.59 on 31 October 2026. Failure to do so will mean your application is considered late even if your entrance test registration was submitted on-time, unless the application is deemed to be on time. This will only happen in circumstances where the parent makes a written application to Warwickshire Admissions for an exception to be made to this rule and Warwickshire Admissions accepts that there were exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the parent/carer from meeting the deadline.

The closing date for registrations is **16.00 on 30 June 2026**. Registrations completed online will be acknowledged by email. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within 14 working days you should contact either Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham or the Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall grammar schools (depending on which organisation you originally registered with).

Invitation packs for testing sessions will be sent to parents/carers by Warwickshire Admissions from 10 August 2026 to families who registered their child to sit the Warwickshire entrance test by the deadline of 30 June 2026 or whose registration was deemed to be on time. Packs will be sent in batches during the week commencing 10 August 2026. If you registered your child for the entrance test by the published deadline or your registration was deemed to be on time and you have not received an invitation pack by 14 August 2026 then you must contact Warwickshire Admissions as a matter of urgency by emailing elevenplus@warwickshire.gov.uk from 17 August 2026. This pack 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 school or, if your child is home educated, by a responsible person drawn from the range of professions acceptable for passport identification purposes. Warwickshire Admissions reserves the right to contact your child’s school and to share the photograph with them for the purpose of establishing proof of identity as part of the entrance test process.

Parents/carers registering for the test with The Grammar Schools of Birmingham or the Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall grammar schools will receive details of their child's test venue along with acknowledgement of their registration from those organisations.

If your form is received prior to the closing date but is not fully completed it will be considered as late⁸. If your registration form is received after the closing date it will be considered as late⁹. 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 school or, if your child is home educated, by a responsible person drawn from the range of professions acceptable for passport identification purposes, 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 of Birmingham or the Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall grammar schools, your registration will be considered as late for the region you wish your child's results to be shared with.¹⁰

If your registration is considered to be late your child will be tested before 6 March 2027 (to be included in the first round of re-offers).

Those registering late are treated the same as those submitting a late application for a school place and will not be considered in the first round of offers. If your registration or application for a school place is late it will affect the likelihood of your child being offered a place at the school¹¹.

If your form is received after the closing date of **16.00 on 30 June 2026** it will only be treated as on-time for this school in circumstances where the parent makes a written application to Warwickshire Admissions for an exception to be made to this rule and Warwickshire Admissions accepts that there were exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the parent/carer from meeting the deadline.

The Test

The main test sessions will be on Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 September 2026. Warwickshire Admissions reserves the right to use weekdays and weekends for testing, if required (at least one testing session per day). The allocated session will be the decision of the local authority.

There will be two papers, each lasting approximately 60 minutes (around 15 minutes of practice questions/test administration and around 45 minutes of testing time). The papers will be divided into smaller, individually timed sections, which test verbal ability (English comprehension and verbal reasoning), numerical ability and non-verbal ability.

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 County Council website and in paper form on

⁸ unless it is deemed to be on time. This will only happen in circumstances where the parent makes a written application to Warwickshire Admissions for an exception to be made to this rule and Warwickshire Admissions accepts that there were exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the parent/carer from meeting the deadline.

⁹ As Footnote 8.

¹⁰ As Footnote 8.

¹¹ As Footnote 8.

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.

Special Arrangements – disability/special resources

Parents/Carers whose children have a disability and/or require special resources to sit the test must request this in writing either by completing the Warwickshire County Council 'Special Testing Requirements' form, located on their website: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions or by emailing the Birmingham Grammar Schools at admissions@ske.uk.net or the individual grammar schools in Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall to request their form (depending on which organisation you are registering with for the entrance test). 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, eg an Educational Psychologist assessment report. Every effort will be made to accommodate disabled children sitting the entrance test. Forms are available from, and must be returned to, either Warwickshire Admissions or The Grammar Schools in Birmingham or the individual grammar schools in Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall (depending on which organisation you are registering with for the entrance test) by **16.00 on 30 June 2026**.

Parents/Carers making such a request will be notified by the end of July 2026 whether or not their request has been agreed.

Any request forms received after this deadline may not be considered in time for the main testing sessions, but the child will still be able to sit the entrance test for admission in 2027-2028.

Special Arrangements – exceptional circumstances such as religious observance, illness, disability or bereavement

Parents/Carers whose child is not able to sit the test on Saturdays for religious reasons must indicate this to Warwickshire Admissions when registering for the test and supply a supporting letter from their religious leader. These children are likely to be tested on a Sunday.

Parents/Carers whose child is not able to sit the test on Sundays for religious reasons must indicate this to Warwickshire Admissions when registering for the test and supply a supporting letter from their religious leader. These children are likely to be tested on a Saturday.

Where a child is unable to attend the testing session on the allocated date, for exceptional reasons such as religious observance, illness, disability or bereavement, an alternative testing session can be arranged. All reasonable steps will be taken to arrange an alternative testing session so that the child's results can be published at the same time as those who sit the 11+ test on the main sessions. However, such situations will be assessed on an individual basis, including consideration of the reasons for an alternative testing session needing to be arranged.

Illness on the test date

If your child 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 or the individual grammar schools in

Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall (depending on which organisation you originally registered with) by 23.59 on the day of the test. Proof of the illness/condition must be received by Warwickshire Admissions by the date outlined in the testing session information pack for an alternative date to be arranged and the application regarded as on-time. If sufficient evidence (details of the evidence required will be in the testing session information pack) is not received by that deadline then the registration for the child to sit the entrance test will be withdrawn – in these circumstances, if the family still wishes for the child to sit the Warwickshire entrance test then they must submit a new registration and this will be classed as late¹². Late candidates will be tested before 6 March 2027 (to be included in the first round of re-offers).

Additional Test Sessions

The main supplementary test date will be Saturday 19 September 2026. This will be for children who were initially invited to testing on the main testing dates but could not attend due to illness and who provided evidence of such, as well as children who were invited to one of these sessions but were unable to attend due to prior engagements (and evidence of such was provided prior to their allocated main testing date).

The invitation to the supplementary test session will contain details of the procedure to follow if your child is unwell and unable to sit the test on the specified date. Further testing sessions to accommodate such circumstances will be arranged by Warwickshire Admissions, as and when required.

Additional testing sessions will be arranged by 31 January 2027 for children who have moved house, and provided sufficient evidence of such, and who have registered for the 11+ test prior to the published deadline of 31 December 2026. The invitation to the additional test sessions will contain details of the procedure to follow if your child is unwell and unable to sit the test on the specified date. Further testing sessions to accommodate such circumstances will be arranged by Warwickshire Admissions, as and when required.

There will be testing sessions for late candidates before 6 March 2027 (to be included in the first round of re-offers).

Further testing sessions will be scheduled by Warwickshire Admissions as and when required.

Results

Data from all children sitting the test will be used to produce standardised scores. The weightings for the test results are 50% for English/verbal reasoning, 25% for non-verbal reasoning and 25% for mathematics. The scores for each section are standardised to take into account differences in age, meaning younger children are not disadvantaged compared to children in the same cohort who could be almost a year older.

You will be notified via electronic communication of your child's score in the entrance test by Friday 16 October 2026. Results will be available online where registration was submitted through

¹² As Footnote 8.

Warwickshire's online parent portal. 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:

- 1) Your child's score for each of the three components and a total score.
- 2) The Automatic Qualifying Scores and required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list) 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 registered with the Grammar Schools of Birmingham or the Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall grammar schools or have asked that their child's score be shared with the Grammar Schools of Birmingham or the Shropshire/Wolverhampton/Walsall grammar schools 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.

Applications for a school place

Parents/Carers must apply for a school place via their home local authority (this is the local authority to whom you pay your Council Tax) by 31 October 2026¹³. 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.

Allocation of Places

The Role of the Committee of Reference

The Headteacher attends the Eastern Area Committee of Reference in their role as a Trustee and sets the Automatic Qualifying Score and waiting list score on behalf of the admissions authority, 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 which are available from Warwickshire Admissions. The Heads of the selective schools in East Warwickshire or their representatives will be members of the Committee. The Committee also reviews the arrangements for any children with disabilities or Special Educational Needs.

Automatic Qualifying Score (AQS)

The Headteacher has an overriding discretion to set the Automatic Qualifying Score and the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list) on behalf

¹³ As Footnote 8.

of the admissions authority as considered appropriate to ensure that those offered places, and those on the waiting list, have reached an academic standard which will enable them to benefit from a grammar school environment.

When determining the Automatic Qualifying Score (AQS) for the school, the Headteacher will consult with the Committee of Reference and will consider the over-subscription criteria, the ability of the overall cohort and the number of places available for the relevant year of entry. As many places as possible will be allocated, in line with the school's published admission number, and only where the ability of those to be allocated places is deemed to be commensurate with cohorts previously admitted to the school.

The Headteacher, after consulting with the Committee of Reference, will also consider the scores of children just below the Automatic Qualifying Score and determine the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list) for that year.

All applications are considered against the oversubscription criteria, no special consideration will be given in the case of siblings.¹⁴

Offers

Offers will be made on 1 March 2027 by the child's home authority as per the co-ordinated secondary school scheme. Subject to the arrangements of the home authority, parents/carers will be expected to accept the offer by 15 March 2027. A further letter reminding parents/carers will be sent before the child is withdrawn from the offer lists. 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 qualifying scores and required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list) for each Warwickshire Grammar School. Given the different arrangements of home authorities, the school will send out its formal offer pack during the summer term and parents/carers will need to complete and return the relevant forms by the deadline stated in the pack in order to formally accept the place. If parents do not return the relevant forms by the deadline a further letter reminding parents/carers will be sent before the child is withdrawn from the offer lists.

Waiting lists

After the initial round of offers, made on 1 March 2027, further places may become available – if, for example, parents/carers take up places for their child 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 re-allocation dates as outlined in the Warwickshire County Council coordinated scheme (<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoollacriteria>). The waiting list order will follow the same as that outlined in the oversubscription criteria, but will also include any applicant who registered late for the entrance test, or who submitted a late secondary school application, or who did not provide the correct address documentation by the specified deadline, and there were no exceptional and

¹⁴ 'Siblings' includes brothers, sisters, step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings or other children living permanently at the same address who are applicants or who are current or former pupils of the school).

unforeseeable events preventing the late submission. Each added child will require the waiting list to be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria.

Any child who is made an offer for a school which was listed lower on their secondary school application than Lawrence Sheriff School will automatically be added to the waiting list, provided that the child achieved the required minimum academic standard for admission (minimum score for a place on the waiting list) or above for this school, for this particular year of entry, in the entrance test.

In accordance with the School Admissions Code (2021), waiting lists will be held for one term until 31 December 2027. Until the waiting list is dissolved on 31 December 2027, children aged 12 or under will continue to be tested using the entrance test. (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 31 December 2027, the entrance test will continue to be used for children under the age of 12. After 31 December 2027, children aged 12 or over will sit tests in English and Mathematics set by the school to judge academic suitability against the relevant cohort.

Appeals

The parents/carers of all children refused places will be notified of their right of appeal via their home authority. Appeals are held before an independent panel.

Fair Access Protocol (FAP)

Warwickshire Local Authority has developed a FAP with Headteachers. Lawrence Sheriff School has adopted the protocol and its provisions are recognised by the School as the admissions authority and incorporated into these admission arrangements. Further information on the FAP can be found at: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Admission outside their normal age group

Years 7-11 – Parents/Carers may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. Anyone considering making such an application for any year group should read Warwickshire County Council's document entitled 'Policy for educating children outside their normal academic year group' (available at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/deferringstartingschool/2> and complete the relevant form (available at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/deferringstartingschool/3>). The child will be tested in accordance with the arrangements set out in the policy and an admission decision taken based on the circumstances of the case and with reference to the best interests of the child, in line with the School Admissions Code (2021).

Years 12 and 13 – In the case of applicants for Sixth Form, a written request for education out of their normal age group explaining the reasons behind the request should be lodged directly with the Headteacher. An admission decision will be taken by the Trustees' Admissions Panel based on the

circumstances of the case and with reference to the best interests of the child, in line with the School Admissions Code (2021).

Late Entry

After 1 September 2027, applications for all year groups other than Years 12 and 13 will be made through the relevant Local Authority using Change of School application forms, which for Warwickshire residents can be found on the Warwickshire County Council website <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/moving-schools-within-school-year>.

The details of the Warwickshire In-Year Co-ordination Scheme are available at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/admissions-arrangements-schools.

Parents/Carers will be notified of the outcome of their application within fifteen school days. Where a child has not previously been tested for admission parents/carers will be notified of the test date within fifteen school days.

Years 7 to 11 In Year Applications

Eligibility for entry to Years 7-11 of this single sex school is dependent on the child's sex being male. No waiting list is kept for year groups other than the incoming Year 7 and Year 12 (and those will be dissolved after 31 December 2027). Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school must be admitted.

Change of school applications must be submitted via Warwickshire Admissions. Guidance on the process is available at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/changingschools>. Children who have previously been tested for admission will be considered based on their original test results. Children who have not previously been tested for admission will be tested as follows:

- Up to 31 December 2027, children who are aged 12 or under will be tested using the entrance test.
- After 31 December 2027, children who are aged 11 or under will be tested using the entrance test.
- After 31 December 2027, children who are aged 12 years or over will be required to take tests in English and Mathematics arranged by the school.

When the change of school application has been made and test results are available, applications will be processed in order of date of receipt by Warwickshire Admissions. If a Trustees' Admissions Panel is considering two or more applications received by Warwickshire Admissions on the same day, a computerised random number generator will be used to determine which application will be processed first (the applicant with the lowest number). 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. A fresh round of random allocation will be used each time multiple applications received on the same day are to be considered.

A place will be offered, subject to availability, if the applicant has achieved the Automatic Qualifying Score or above for that cohort or if the applicant's performance in the school's tests satisfies the Trustees' Admissions Panel that the boy's ability in both English and Mathematics is commensurate with that of the cohort into which he is seeking admission. Any place offered must be accepted within one week and taken up within twenty school days of the offer having been made. In the event of this not happening, the offer will be withdrawn.

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.

Sixth Form Entry Requirements

Lawrence Sheriff School has a co-educational sixth form and therefore welcomes applications from both male and female applicants.

Entry into Year 12 is on the basis of academic ability demonstrated by achievement at GCSE (or equivalent, see 'Applicants holding qualifications other than GCSEs' section). Confirmed places in Year 12 can therefore only be allocated following GCSE results day in August 2027.

The entry requirement is eight GCSEs, 4 graded at Grade 5 and 4 graded at Grade 6 or above, including a Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature and a Grade 5 or above in Mathematics.

There are specific GCSE requirements for individual subjects detailed in the Sixth Form Course Guide. It is not necessary for current Year 11 Lawrence Sheriff School pupils to apply formally for places in Year 12. The entry requirements are the same for both external applicants and current pupils. On receipt of a completed online application form from external applicants (which must be submitted by 23.59 on 4 December 2026¹⁵), a guidance discussion will be arranged. The discussion is intended to ensure that all applicants make informed choices and will have no bearing on any decision whether to offer a place at the school. Offers of places are made subject to the entry requirements being met in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. A guidance discussion will also be arranged for current Year 11 Lawrence Sheriff School pupils. Lawrence Sheriff School reserves the right to exceed its

¹⁵ Applications submitted after this will be classed as late unless the application is deemed to be on time. This will only happen in circumstances where the parent makes a written application to the School for an exception to be made to this rule and the School accepts that there were exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the student/parent/carer from meeting the deadline.

Published Admission Number (PAN) for sixth form entry, in line with Section 1.4 of the School Admissions Code (2021).

Applicants holding qualifications other than GCSEs

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 levels. The school may seek guidance from UK ENIC (the designated United Kingdom national agency for the recognition and evaluation of international qualifications and skills) in order to assess the equivalence of qualifications and the application will be ranked against the oversubscription criteria accordingly.

Sixth Form Application Process

Applicants should submit the completed online application form by 23.59 on 4 December 2026¹⁶. The online form will be available on the school website www.lawrencesherrifschool.net. If, for any reason, you are unable to access the online form, please contact the Sixth Form Team at the school for assistance.

The online application form will request the following information:

Surname
Forename
Chosen Name (if different)
Date of Birth
Home Address
Home Telephone Number
Home Email Address

In order to apply our admissions criteria we need to know:

Do you have an Education, Health and Care Plan which names Lawrence Sheriff School? Yes / No

Are you a looked after child* or previously looked after child*? Yes / No

Are you eligible for one of the following additional premiums:

Pupil Premium? Yes / No

Service Premium? Yes / No

*The full definitions of looked after and previously looked after children are in the School Admissions Code (2021), and as indicated in the Lawrence Sheriff School Admissions Policy for 2027-2028.

Sixth Form Oversubscription Criteria

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school must be admitted and this could therefore reduce the number of places available. There is no guarantee of a place being available, but

¹⁶ As Footnote 15.

places up to the Published Admission Number will be allocated to on-time applicants achieving the required standard for admission in the following order:

There is no guarantee of a place being available, but places up to the Published Admission Number will be allocated to on-time applicants achieving the required standard for admission in the following order:

Criterion 1 – Looked After Children and all previously looked after children (as previously defined)

Criterion 2 – Up to 20 children who are eligible for the Pupil Premium/Service Premium (as previously defined) at the point of applying to join the sixth form.

Criterion 3 – Children of staff where 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. This will apply to all teaching and non-teaching staff on permanent contracts but excludes casual/temporary appointments (eg invigilators and peripatetic staff). 'Children' will include natural children, step children, foster children and adopted children, as well as children of the member of staff's partner living permanently at the same address (this will also include cases where the child's residency is shared with another parent).

Criterion 4 – Children living within the Priority Circle (10.004 miles, as previously defined) who meet the required standard for entry.

Criterion 5 – Other children who meet the required standard for entry.

Where there is a need to split any criterion places will then be offered by taking the child's total capped points score (best eight GCSE results including English and Mathematics). Where there is a further need to split any criterion places will be offered in accordance with distance between the child's home and school (shortest distance = highest priority). Distance will be calculated by the straight line measurement from the address point coordinate of the applicant's home address (as set by Ordinance Survey) to the centre point ("centroid") of the school (located at the centre of the doorway to the Headteacher's Office). (All distances are subject to changes which may occur with updates of mapping data). This applies equally to those living inside and outside the County's boundary. Where there is a further need to split any criterion places will be offered by random allocation, ie allocated using a computerised random number generator (the applicant with the lowest number will be offered the place). 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. A fresh round of random allocation will be used each time a child is to be offered a place and two or more applicants cannot otherwise be separated.

Any applications not submitted by 23.59 on 4 December 2026 will be regarded as late¹⁷. These applicants will be made a conditional offer for entry but places will only be offered to these applicants on GCSE results day in August 2027 if there is availability once unconditional offers have been made to those who applied by 23.59 on 4 December 2026 or whose application was accepted as on-time due to exceptional and unforeseen events preventing the student/parent/carer from meeting the deadline.

In the event that the school is over-subscribed, a waiting list will be formed. The waiting list will be ranked according to the oversubscription criteria given above. Each added child will require the

¹⁷ As Footnote 15.

waiting list to be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be dissolved after 31 December 2027. Any place offered from the waiting list after the start of term must be accepted within one week and taken up within twenty school days of the offer having been made. In the event of this not happening, the offer will be withdrawn.

Sixth Form 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.

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 application is made for admission. Further information on Warwickshire's transport policy and application process can be found on the Warwickshire County Council website.

APPENDIX 1

ADMISSION RESIDENCY RULES: HOME ADDRESS DEFINITION AND WHAT HAPPENS IF APPLICANTS MOVE HOUSE

The child's home address is where they are living on the date an application for a school place is made. Addresses involved in child-minding arrangements, whether with professional child-minders, friends or relatives, are excluded. The home address will be used to apply the School's oversubscription criteria such as distance from home to school. Where the home address changes after the application or during the pupil's first term at school, consideration will be given as to the reason why. Where it is established that the reason for the change of address constitutes the application being fraudulent or intentionally misleading, the place may be withdrawn.

Where parental responsibilities are equally shared, the home address will be considered to be the place where the child normally sleeps for the majority of the school week (Monday to Friday) during term time. If the child spends equal amounts of time at each address, the parents/carers should specify which address to use for admission. Proof of such arrangements may be requested.

Where families of service personnel have a confirmed posting, or crown servants are returning from overseas, we will allocate a place in advance of the family arriving in the area (as long as the child has qualified for admission and a place is available), provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date, in line with Section 2.21 of the School Admissions Code (2021). The address used to apply the oversubscription criteria for such children will be the one at which the child will live after the relocation or the Unit/quartering address where a parent requests this. Evidence must be provided by 31 December 2026 in order to be included in the first allocation round¹⁸.

The school will treat applications for children coming from overseas in accordance with the relevant Home Office rules for European Economic Area/non-European Economic Area nationals in force at the time when a decision is made on the application.

Evidence required for admission to Year 7 in the normal round of applications

Warwickshire Admissions will request on behalf of the school evidence in support of the application. The service will write out at the beginning of December 2026 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 to provide proof of the home address by 23.59 on 31 December 2026. **The application will be considered as late if appropriate proof is not provided by that deadline¹⁹.** The evidence required is as follows:

¹⁸ As Footnote 8

¹⁹ As Footnote 8.

Group 1

- Council Tax bill 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 or bank statement dated within the last 6 months; or
- Car insurance certificate and policy renewal letter dated within the last twelve months.

Group 2

Plus one of the following:

- All pages of your Child Tax Credit Award Notice for the current financial year; or
- A Bank Account Statement in the child's name (eg Savings Account) dated within the last 6 months; or
- A letter confirming a medical or dental appointment for the child dated within the last six months.

ALL documents must display the child's home address.

Parents/Carers may wish to redact any confidential financial or medical details from these documents. Lawrence Sheriff School will treat any data it receives in accordance with the law.

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 a home visit. Lawrence Sheriff School also reserves the right to carry out home visits.

Moving to a new address

If the home address changes between applying for a school place and 31 December 2026, Warwickshire Admissions must be provided with proof of the new address. The child must be living at the new address by 31 December 2026. Proof of the new address, such as a full copy of the signed tenancy agreement, or a letter from the solicitor confirming that there has been an exchange of contracts, will be required. This must be received by Warwickshire Admissions by no later than 23.59 on 31 December 2026²⁰.

If any concerns are raised about the validity of an address, parents/carers will 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 it is no longer available for you and your family to live in 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.

²⁰ As Footnote 8.

If the home address changes after 31 December 2026 the new address can only be taken into account after National Offer Day on 1 March 2027.

The School will also check the child's home address once offers have been made and 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. Lawrence Sheriff School reserves the right to carry out home visits to verify a student's home address.

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. Short-term house moves purely to secure a school place may be considered fraudulent or intentionally misleading and in such circumstances the place may be withdrawn.

Those who submit fraudulent or deliberately misleading applications may also be subject to legal proceedings.

Address checks for admission to the school for any other point of entry

For applications outside the normal round of applications to Year 7, address checks for in year applications and sixth form will be carried out by the school.

