

SKEGNESS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Planned admission number for entry into Year 7: 100 (four form entry)

Status: Selective Grammar School & Foundation School Applied for Academy Status with Ross Foundation.

Information for Parents

Skegness Grammar School welcomes applications from the local community of Skegness, the surrounding villages and beyond. Over the past five years the school has offered places to **all of those** children who have passed the 11+ entrance test, placed us at their first choice school on the common application form

Summary of Admission Testing for 2011/12 – at the time of the policy publish date

Number of children passing the test: 1713

Number of children who passed the test from feeder primary schools: 75

Number of children who passed the test from other primary schools: 1638

Admissions Authority

Skegness Grammar School is an 11 – 18 selective Foundation school for which the Governing Body is the Admission Authority, responsible for both admissions and administering appeals. The Governing Body determines all decisions about admissions including this policy. All allocation of places are determined by a committee of the Governing Body with delegated powers.

Visits

Parents of prospective pupils are welcome to visit the school by prior arrangement with the Headmaster. The main open evening is early in the autumn term. Details are sent out to feeder primary schools and are widely advertised in the press.

Parents of boarders wishing to arrange to visit the school and Wainfleet Hall are requested to contact the school.

ADMISSIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Entry at 11+

The school will admit pupils at 11+ who are in the top 25% of the ability range in all the areas of Lincolnshire which serve grammar schools. The school is a member of the consortium of Lincolnshire selective schools and will apply their selection tests and procedures (and appeals procedures) in order to ascertain those pupils whose ability places them in the top 25% of the ability range described above. Any change to this procedure or to the means by which the school assesses the level of applicants' ability will

be published in the prospectus prior to the next invitation for applications. Where a parent chooses to apply to the school under the county preference scheme, that choice will be considered as an equal preference.

If there is oversubscription, preference will be based on 11+ scores. In the case of two or more applicants who have exactly the same score and are competing for the last place, then priority will be given to the pupil living nearest the school. This will be measured Microsoft Mappoint using the shortest driving distance between the post office address point of the home and the post office address point of the school.

In accordance with the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs, the allocation of school places for pupils with a statement of special educational needs will take place before the school allocates other places as part of the normal admissions process (providing the child reaches the qualifying standard). Any child "looked after" by the Local Authority who achieves the minimum qualifying standard in the selection tests will be offered a place before any other applications are considered.

There is a legal requirement for admissions authorities to comply with the agreed coordinated admissions scheme for entry into Year 7, which is administered by Lincolnshire County Council, as the local authority. Under the coordinated arrangements all applications must be submitted by parents or carers either by applying online or on their home local authorities common application form.

Brief details of the agreed timetable are shown below. The local authority will provide a booklet 'Guide to Secondary School Transfer' and a common application form for all children living in Lincolnshire. The common application form must be completed and returned to the local authority by the date given. The local authority will then send the information from the form to the school where the Governing Body will consider all the applications in accordance with the schools' published admissions criteria. Please note that all applications for a place at Skegness Grammar School must also complete 11-plus testing if they are to be considered. Qualification in the schools 11-plus testing arrangements, however, does not, in itself, guarantee your child a place in the school. Also, sitting the tests does not constitute an application. In accordance with the 1996 Education Act the allocation of school places for pupils with a statement of special educational needs will take place before the school allocates other places as part of the normal admissions procedure provided that the child reaches the qualifying standard for entry.

Timetable for admissions

- Information on testing available from school by the end of May in the year prior to admission.
- Application form and booklet produced by the local authority in early September
- Allocation of places 1 March

Policy in the Event of Oversubscription at 11-Plus

In the event that the number of eligible applicants for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit:

1. Children in the public care of the local authority, if they have reached the required standard for entry. A child in public care sometimes referred to as "looked after" is a child who is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by them in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989 at the time of application.

2. Eligible children whose permanent address is within the school's designated area for free transport with priority being given to the order of their total scores in the entrance tests.
3. Eligible children from all other areas with priority being given to the order of their total scores in the entrance tests.

In the event that total scores are tied in any of the above categories, priority will be given to the children living nearest the school using the driving distance between the post office address points of their home and school.

Details about the number of applicants each year and therefore the likelihood of success are available in the School Prospectus to be published in September. A map of the designated area for transport is available from the school and is published on the school website and The Consortium of Lincolnshire Grammar Schools website (<http://grammarschools.lincs.sch.uk>)

Late Applications for Entry to Year 7

If candidates for entry to Year 7 apply after the normal times for testing, they will still be able to sit the appropriate tests and be considered for places according to the normal criteria set out above and taking into account the coordinated admissions scheme for the county.

Waiting Lists

For admission into Year 7 the governors will keep a waiting list which we call a reserve list. This list is in the order of the oversubscription criteria and priority is not influenced by the date an applicant is added to the list. Names can move down the list if someone moves into the area and is higher placed on the oversubscription criteria. The list is kept by the School's Admission Team until the end of August prior to admission. After this the school will keep the reserve list until the end of the autumn term.

Entry to Other Year Groups

Pupils are admitted to other year groups, if places are available, on the basis of school reports and tests administered by the Headmaster. Applicants will need to demonstrate their ability to benefit from a grammar school education.

Appeals Procedure

Parents have the right of appeal against a decision by the Governors/Headmaster not to admit their child. Further details are available from the school. In the case of admissions into Year 7, parents are requested to lodge appeals by March of that Year. If the school does not accept a particular pupil then the parents have the right to APPEAL against the school's decision. Such appeals are heard by an independent Governors' appeals panel which operates in a sympathetic manner. Parents will be advised of the procedure if the need arises.

Fair Access

The government has stated that all local authorities must have a Fair Access agreement that allows hard to place children, for example those that have been permanently excluded, to be given a place before any oversubscription criteria are applied and before anyone is considered from the waiting list. Such children are distributed to make sure no one school has to take too many of these children. All such children must have reached the required standard.

Entry to Other Year Groups

Pupils are admitted to other year groups, if places are available, on the basis of school reports and tests administered by the Headmaster. Applicants will need to demonstrate their ability to benefit from a grammar school education.

Entry into the Sixth Form

The school welcomes applications for places into its sixth form. Selection is on the basis of GCSE results and school reports. The school allocates up to 25 places in the lower sixth each year for those joining the school after GCSEs.

In normal circumstances the entry requirements are six A-C grade passes (including Maths and English Language) at GCSE, four of which must be passed at A or a high B grade.

Boarding

Entry to the Boarding House will mirror academic entry requirements for the school. Places will be allocated under the following criteria which are listed in order of priority.

1. Looked after children
2. Siblings – those applicants that have a brother or sister on roll at Skegness Grammar School
and who are still attending the school at the time a place is required.

Note that all boarding places are offered subject to a meeting with the applicants and a reference from their current/previous school. The school reserves the right to offer boarding places only to those applicants whom it is felt will adapt to and thrive in the boarding house community.

Additional Information on Admissions

The entrance procedure for YEAR 7 PUPILS is formal. Places are allocated on the basis of the results of the 11+ verbal reasoning or attainment tests. It is not necessary for parents of 11 year olds living in our catchment to register their children since day places will be offered automatically to local children whose performance at primary school and in the selection procedures indicate that they will benefit from a grammar school education. Parents of 11 year olds who live outside our catchment and want a day place for their child at Skegness Grammar School are welcome. They should ask for a registration form and details of the entrance procedure or should tell the LA that they wish to exercise their right to specify Skegness Grammar School as their preferred school. Parents seeking boarding places for 11 year olds must register their child.

Pupils are normally admitted at 11+ and 16+ and leave at 18+ but we are happy to consider requests for places at other ages from:

- * Parents who move into the area.
- * Parents whose children attend other local schools but think that their child's progress suggests that he or she would benefit from a grammar school education.
- * Parents who seek a boarding place.

If the school does not accept a particular pupil then the parents have the right to APPEAL against the school's decision. Such appeals are heard by an independent Governors appeals panel which operates in a sympathetic manner. Parents will be advised of the procedure if the need arises.