





Wakefield Grammar School Foundation

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Version	Date	Change details		
V1.00	March 2023	New whole-Foundation policy created; RM Brookes, QEGS Head.		
		Replaces the previous standalone Admissions Policies:		
		 QEGS SS: Reviewed by Mark Fitzsimons, Director of Studies, Jan 2022 		
		 QEGS JS: Reviewed by Richard Thompson, Director of Junior Section, Jan 2022 		
		WGHS: Reviewed by Heidi Jayne Boyes, Head, Feb 2022		
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Staff shared	Х	School website	Х

WGSF Admissions Policy

1. Purpose and Aims of this Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide the guidelines for admissions into the three schools which make up the Wakefield Grammar Schools Foundation (WGSF): Wakefield Grammar Pre-Preparatory School (WGPPS), Wakefield Girls' High School (WGHS) and Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (QEGS).

The aims of this policy are:

- To identify and admit pupils who demonstrate that they will be able to take full advantage of the education that the Foundation's schools have to offer.
- To identify and admit pupils who will contribute to and benefit from the ethos, co-curricular activities and enrichment programme of the school communities.
- To ensure that each school feels reasonably sure that it is able to educate and develop prospective pupils to the best of their potential and in line with general standards achieved by their peers, so that there is every chance that each pupil will have a happy, fulfilling and successful school career.
- To ensure that our admissions processes are conducted transparently and fairly.

These aims will apply throughout a pupil's time at the Foundation's schools.

Related Policies and Guidance

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following:

- WGSF Parental Terms and Conditions
- WGSF Bursary Policy
- WGSF Equal Opportunities (Pupils) Policy (including EYFS)
- WGSF Privacy Notice (Parents and Pupils)
- WGSF Data Protection Policy

2. Introduction

Wakefield Grammar School Foundation owns and governs three independent day schools in the city of Wakefield. **Wakefield Grammar Pre-Preparatory School** is a co-educational school for pupils from age 3 (a child's 3rd birthday) to 7. **Wakefield Girls High School** is a single-sex school for girls from age 7 to 18, including a Sixth Form. **Queen Elizabeth Grammar School** is a single-sex school for boys from age 7 to 18, including a Sixth Form. There is some joint teaching of WGHS and QEGS pupils in the Sixth Form.

Characteristics of our schools

At WGPPS, we provide a stimulating and happy learning environment for children to learn, develop and make progress. Our school prepares pupils for entry to the Junior Sections of the other two WGSF schools.

WGHS is an outward-looking school, producing confident and inspirational young women determined to make a positive contribution to society. We nurture, encourage and challenge our pupils so they are prepared for the rapidly changing modern world. At WGHS, we strive to deliver a high quality, complete education in which we concentrate on educating the individual, to provide a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere where each individual feels valued and can flourish.

QEGS has a strong tradition of pastoral care and a family ethos. QEGS follows a liberal, academic tradition and the curriculum is rich and full with many co-curricular activities on offer. Pupils enjoy an academic, cultural and social education, broadened by a programme which includes music, drama, art, sport, computing, science and modern foreign languages. We welcome applications from boys who will contribute fully and enthusiastically to the wider life of the school.

Visiting our schools

Deciding on the right school for your child is very important, and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. Visiting our schools enables prospective families to meet our staff and pupils, take a tour of the school(s) and gather information about life in the Foundation. All prospective pupils and their parents are encouraged to visit our schools and meet the Head (or member(s) of the Senior Leadership Team), either on a personal visit, at our annual Open Morning (which takes place in October) or at our annual Sixth Form Open Evening (which takes place in November): details are published on <u>our website</u> and you can complete our on-line event registration form to confirm your attendance. We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children at other times. Please contact the relevant School's Admissions' team to arrange a visit.

The contacts at each school are:

- WGPPS: Karen Wood, Registrar, on 01924 231618 or kwood@wgsf.net
- WGHS: Stevie Newton, Registrar, on 01924 372490 or snewton@wgsf.net
- QEGS: Vikki Collins, Marketing, Admissions and Communications Manager, 01924 373943 or <u>gegsadmissions@wgsf.net</u>

3. The Admissions Procedure

The three Foundation schools are selective, and academic merit is valued. The Foundation's aim is to offer places only to those prospective pupils who demonstrate that they will be able to take full advantage of the education we have to offer. Our selection procedures are designed to identify pupils who are able to benefit from our balanced and well-rounded education and to make a positive contribution towards the life of the School.

The usual points of entry are:

- from a child's 3rd birthday for entry into FS1
- at 7+ for entry into Year 3
- 11+ for entry into Year 7
- 16+ for entry into Year 12

The Schools may also have places for entry at other ages and we welcome applications at any time of year into any year group - please contact the schools for details (using the contact details in Section 2 above).

WGHS and QEGS do not normally accept admissions for entry into Year 11 or Year 13 due to the structure of the GCSE and A-level courses.

Overview of the Admissions Procedure

The Admissions Procedure can be summarised as:

- Attendance at an Open Event / Personal Visit
- Registration
 - Application for a means-tested Bursary (if applicable)
- Entrance Assessments

- Examination (if applicable)
- Interview (if applicable)
- Assessment for a Scholarship (if applicable)
- Request for Reference from prospective pupil's current school
- Offer of a place
 - Including offer of any Bursary award (if applicable)
- Acceptance of a place
- New Pupil Transition process
- Admission into the relevant Foundation School

3.1 Registration

Parents are required to register their child by completing the Application Form with the non-refundable registration fee of £50. The Application Form is available on the Foundation's website. The Application Fee is payable via PayPal as part of the on-line application form (please note that you do not need your own PayPal account to make this payment). Once the online Application Form and registration fee have been received our admissions staff will guide all those with parental responsibility through our admissions process.

At WGPPS, the registration fee also enables children to receive a book bag when they start school.

3.2 Entrance Assessments

For external applicants joining from outside the Foundation below the Sixth Form, entrance is based on an assessment of the child (typically involving an examination and / or interview) in conjunction with a reference from the current school.

Further information about the Entrance Assessments in **Section 6: The Assessment Procedure** below.

3.3 Offer of a place

Admission into WGPPS

Parents will receive a letter offering their child a place and information about next steps.

If a child has not received a place but there is the potential a place may be offered at a further date, the Head will offer a further assessment date and inform parents of the areas of focus that could be worked on prior to this second assessment.

In all cases the decision of the Head is final.

Admission into Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

WGHS / QEGS will endeavour to contact prospective parents, by telephone or email, within three working days of the 'Taster' Day to inform them of one of two possible outcomes:

- The prospective pupil is offered a place; or
- The prospective pupil is not offered a place.

Where a prospective pupil is offered a place, the date for accepting the place will be specified within the offer letter (any offer is subject to a satisfactory reference from the pupil's current school).

In all cases the decision of the Head is final.

Admission into Year 7

Offer letters are sent to prospective parents by email, normally within two weeks of the end of the assessment and interview process. The offer letter will include one of three possible outcomes:

- The prospective pupil is offered a place;
- The prospective pupil is offered a place on the waiting list and would only be offered a place at WGHS / QEGS if a place became available at a later stage; or
- The prospective pupil is not offered a place.

Applicants who requested bursary support will be informed if any financial support is available in the offer letter or may be placed on a bursary waiting list. Any offer of bursary support is made subject to confirmation of financial information.

The date for accepting a place is always after the national secondary school admission confirmations.

In all cases the decision of the Head is final.

Admission into Years 8, 9 and 10

WGHS / QEGS will endeavour to contact prospective parents, by telephone or email, within three working days of the Entrance Assessments to inform them of one of two possible outcomes:

- The prospective pupil is offered a place; or
- The prospective pupil is not offered a place.

Where a prospective pupil is offered a place, the date for accepting the place will be specified within the offer letter.

In all cases the decision of the Head is final.

Admission into Year 12

Conditional offer letters are sent to prospective parents/guardians, by email, normally within two weeks of the date of the Sixth Form Taster Lessons and Scholarship Examination Day (WGHS) or within two weeks of the interview days (QEGS).

The Admissions Office will contact prospective Year 12 pupils on GCSE results day to discuss the pupil's results and to determine the offer of a place. If a prospective pupil meets the entry requirements, a formal offer letter will be sent to the parents/guardians within one week of GCSE results day.

Applicants who requested bursary support will be informed if any financial support is available in the formal offer letter. Funding is conditional on the confirmation of supporting financial information.

In all cases the decision of the Head is final.

3.4 Acceptance of a place

Parents who wish to accept the offer of a place for their child should complete and return the Form of Acceptance by the stipulated date, along with a £300 non-refundable deposit, to secure the place. The acceptance deposit is payable via PayPal (please note that you do not need your own PayPal account to make this payment).

The deposit will be refunded, net of any outstanding fees and charges, without interest on the date when the pupil leaves the Foundation (this is usually at the end of the Sixth Form).

3.5 The Transition Process

We strive to ensure that all new pupils settle quickly and easily into their new school environment.

The arrangements to achieve this are set out in:

- Appendix 4: New Pupil Induction / Transition Process at WGPPS
- Appendix 5: New Pupil Induction / Transition Process at WGHS
- Appendix 6: New Pupil Induction / Transition Process at QEGS

4. Equal Opportunities

Promoting equal opportunities is fundamental to the aims and ethos of the Foundation, and we aim to encourage applications from prospective pupils with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. We believe that the educational experience can only be enriched if children are exposed to as wide a range of cultural experiences as possible whilst they are developing.

The Foundation is committed to equal treatment for all, and to ensuring that admission decisions will be made by a process that is free from any discrimination, regardless of an individual's ethnicity, race, sex, gender, disability, religion or belief or lack of such, sexual orientation, social background or any other protected characteristic as set out in the Equality Act (2010).

Religious beliefs

The Foundation welcomes applications from prospective pupils of all faiths and of no faith. Although the Foundation has Christian roots, the Schools do not select for entry on the basis of religious belief, and they offer the opportunity for pupils to practise their own faiths.

5. Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities

The Foundation does not unlawfully discriminate in any way regarding entry. The School welcomes pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities, provided we can offer them any support that they require, we can cater for any additional needs, and that our site can accommodate them. We aim to ensure that all our pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are provided with a safe and inclusive environment in which to learn.

The Foundation's schools are independent, academically selective schools and all pupils are assessed equally on the basis of the entrance assessment and a school report. Our policy is to apply our admission criteria to all potential pupils. We require parents of children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities to discuss their child's needs with the School prior to the sitting of the entrance assessments so that we can make adequate provision for them. Parents must inform the School, in writing, if they are aware or suspect that a child has a specific learning difference, and must provide full details of all written reports and other relevant information, including a copy of an Educational Psychologist's Report or a medical report if they have one. This is so that the School can assess the child's needs and consult with parents about the adjustments which can reasonably be made to the entrance procedures (which may include modifications such as extra time, a separate room, enlarged papers, etc.) where it is deemed that a learning difference is sufficient to create a difficulty for a child to access an examination, and so that the School can ensure that their child will be able to access the education offered. A pupil may be asked to attend an assessment with the Director of Learning Support.

Where a prospective pupil is disabled, the School will discuss with parents (and their child's medical advisers, if appropriate) the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if they were to become a pupil at the School, to ensure that the prospective pupil is not put at a substantial disadvantage compared to a pupil who is not disadvantaged because of a disability.

There may be exceptional circumstances in which we are not able to offer a place for reasons relating to a child's disability. For example, if, despite reasonable adjustments, we feel that a prospective pupil is not going to be able to access the education offered, or that their health and safety or those of other pupils or staff may be put at risk, we may not be able to offer a place at the School.

Sometimes, the situation of pupils with disabilities and/or special educational needs changes between an offer of a place being made and the pupil starting at the School. The School requires parents to be proactive in updating the School as to any significant changes which mean that the information provided during the application process is out of date or incomplete. In the vast majority of cases, this will not affect a pupil's place at the School. However the School may, in exceptional circumstances, need to reconsider the offer of a place if a pupil's circumstances change materially. It is in the pupil's interests that any such decision is made as early as possible to avoid any disruption to their education, so parents are urged to be forthcoming in their communications with the School about any material change to their child's circumstances.

6. The Assessment Procedure

The aim of the process is to identify potential. The Foundation is looking for well-rounded pupils with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. The Foundation has strong traditions in music, drama, art, community activities and sport. There are many co-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual.

Selection is based upon academic merit which is assessed through entry assessments and references and other relevant information from the applicant's previous school (such as a school report) and/or written evidence from other sources as appropriate. All applicants for entry (below 16+) sit papers in English, Maths and Reasoning, which are designed for their age group.

At WGPPS children will complete an informal assessment from FS2-Year 2, with the Head or Deputy Head which includes a conversation, a vocabulary assessment, phonics and number work and assessment of key knowledge such as shape, phonics and sentence writing. In FS1, children will be invited in school to take part in an informal assessment which involves playing in the setting.

References will be sought from the Head of an applicant's current school as part of the assessment process. We also interview all applicants as part of our assessment process for entry into the Senior Sections and Sixth Form.

No specific preparation (including any additional tutoring) for our entrance assessments is needed; all applicants start on an equal footing, with identical opportunities to display their academic aptitude and wider skills.

The dates for the assessment process for the current year are published on our website, together with the dates that results are posted to families and the closing date for acceptances.

Practice Assessment materials are available on the Schools' websites or from the Registrar / Admissions Office upon request.

Specific arrangements in the Foundation Schools

- Further information about specific arrangements at WGPPS can be found in **Appendix 1: Admissions Procedures for WGPPS**.
- Further information about specific arrangements at WGHS can be found in Appendix
 2: Admissions Procedures for WGHS.
- Further information about specific arrangements at QEGS can be found in Appendix
 3: Admissions Procedures for QEGS.

Arrangements at Sixth Form (WGHS and QEGS)

Pupils outside the Foundation applying for admission into Year 12 at QEGS prepare set work prior to coming in for an interview, where this work is discussed, with the Head of Department and other senior staff.

Pupils outside the Foundation applying for admission into Year 12 at WGHS will need to have an informal interview with our Head of Sixth Form to discuss their predicted grades or mock GCSE results (whichever is first available at the time of interview) before a provisional offer can be issued.

Our offer of places into Year 12 is conditional upon an applicant achieving the minimum entry criteria, and a recommendation from the pupil's current school.

Further information can be found in **Appendix 2: Admissions Procedures for WGHS** and **Appendix 3: Admissions Procedures for QEGS**.

7. Transfer between Sections and Schools within the Foundation

Within WGPPS

Pupils from FS1 move to the FS2 provision in our school in the September after their 4th birthday, subject to the recommendation by the FS1 staff and acceptance by the Head.

From WGPPS to the relevant Junior Section (of WGHS or QEGS)

It is usual that boys and girls who are in WGPPS will move automatically to the next stage of their education in our Junior Sections at the end of Year 2. However the final decision will be made by the Head of WGHS / QEGS, based upon the suitability of a pupil to access the opportunities in the Junior Section.

From the Junior Section to the Senior Section (within WGHS and QEGS)

Applicants for the Senior Sections from our Junior Sections are not required to sit the Senior Sections' Entrance Assessments. Pupils who are due to move from the Junior Section to the Senior Section will have been assessed by teaching staff over a period of time for their suitability to meet Senior Section entrance requirements and the vast majority of pupils will move to Senior Section - normally they would expect to be offered an unconditional place, subject to a satisfactory Junior Section report.

Where there are concerns about a pupil's ability to succeed in the Senior Section, these concerns will have been raised with parents in advance. Such pupils may be required to sit the Entrance Assessments alongside external applicants. In addition, the Head may interview pupils about whom there are concerns regarding transition and discuss their individual situations with their parents.

From Year 11 to Sixth Form (within WGHS and QEGS)

Whilst progression to the Sixth Form for internal Year 11 pupils is conditional upon GCSE results, pupils who are due to move into the Sixth Form will have been assessed by teaching staff over a period of time for their suitability, and the vast majority of pupils will move to the Sixth Form. Where there are concerns about a pupil's ability to succeed in the Sixth Form, these concerns will normally have been raised with parents in advance.

8. Bursaries

The Foundation's bursary programme is generous and is designed to make it possible for as many as possible of those who meet The Foundation's entry criteria to take up a place here, where this would otherwise be beyond the reach of the parents' financial situation. This widens the range of educational opportunities for both pupils and parents.

The Foundation offers a number of means-tested bursaries each year, where the parents have indicated on the Application Form that they require financial support. The majority of bursaries are offered at Year 7 or Year 12 entry though awards may be available to other entrants in exceptional circumstances. Bursaries are awarded subject to a financial assessment in accordance with the criteria published in the Foundation's Bursary Policy (which can be obtained from the Registrar / Admissions Office and is available on the website).

All those with parental responsibility are required to make full disclosure and provide evidence of their income and assets. The level of support varies according to parental need

and available funding. Bursary funding is typically offered at between 25% to 75% of fee levels, but may extend to full fee remission on occasion.

It is usual that there are more bursary applicants than funding available and therefore an application for a bursary cannot guarantee an offer of funding. Bursaries are always offered on an annual basis. The family is required to provide fresh information about its circumstances for every year that their child attends the School. Levels of support may be varied to reflect any changes in parental income or family circumstances. A bursary may be withdrawn in accordance with the terms upon which such award is made or otherwise in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions.

Prospective parents who wish to apply for a bursary must complete and return the Bursary Application Form, together with the relevant supporting documentary evidence no later than the published deadline (usually early December). Wherever possible, parents will be informed of any bursary offer at the time that they are offered a place. If a bursary cannot be offered due to the availability of funding, then a place without financial support may still be offered. It will be the fee payer's responsibility to determine if they can accept the offered place at the full fee level.

Parents are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office for further information on bursaries or for a referral to the Finance Team.

Pupils currently attending the Junior Section of WGHS or QEGS who wish to be considered for an increase to a current bursary or a new bursary application, may be invited to sit the Entrance Assessments for prospective pupils in January of Year 6.

9. Scholarships

We encourage parents of potential scholars who anticipate that they will experience difficulty in meeting the balance of the tuition fees to apply for one of the School's means-tested bursaries (see Section 8 above).

Year 7 Scholarships

Each year, the Foundation offers a small number of scholarships (typically around 10 per year in each of WGHS and QEGS) to reward academic excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. In recognition of this achievement, the scholar is offered £500 per annum reduction in the fees throughout their time at the School. Applicants for academic scholarships are selected from the most outstanding performers in the normal entrance assessments.

Pupils currently attending the Junior Section of WGHS or QEGS who wish to be considered for an academic scholarship will sit the Entrance Assessments for prospective pupils in January of Year 6.

Year 12 Scholarships

Academic Scholarships are awarded to pupils (both internal and external entrants) on entry into Year 12. These are awarded to pupils who achieve 8 grade 8s or better in their GCSE examinations (this criteria is subject to periodic review). The value of an Academic Scholarship is £500 per annum.

Additional scholarships

Through the generosity of donations and legacies, a small number of additional scholarships are also available. The criteria for offering these scholarships and the monetary value of the scholarship varies according to the terms of the donation and is applied as a reduction in fees. Further details can be found in Appendix 7.

Applying for Subject Specific Scholarships

WGHS pupils must apply to sit the subject specific scholarship papers (see Appendix 7).

Review of Scholarships

Scholarships are held for the duration of a pupil's time at the School, provided their conduct and academic progress is satisfactory. A scholarship may be withdrawn in accordance with the terms upon which such award is made or in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions.

10. Sibling Policy

Most siblings join us at the Foundation's schools, and applications from siblings of current pupils are welcomed. However, applications are considered on the same basis as applications for all other prospective pupils and admission is not automatic as there may be occasions where we judge that a sibling is likely to thrive better in a different academic environment. No priority is given to siblings for entry to the Foundation's schools.

11. Admission of Foundation Staff Children

Admission of children of Foundation members of staff or Governors to the Foundation's schools is on the same basis as for any other child and is as described in this policy.

12. Financial Information

Any applicant for a place at one of the Foundation's schools, including those who apply for bursary support and overseas applicants, may at the discretion of the Foundation be required to provide additional financial information and / or undergo checks to confirm that fees will be paid from a legitimate source of funds or that they are able to pay the School's fees (or any percentage of the fees still payable if a bursary or scholarship is granted).

13. Overseas Applicants

We welcome overseas pupils, who can study at the Foundation provided that they have the legal right to enter and study in the UK and they have a relative or responsible adult living in the UK with whom they can reside, as outlined in the School's Terms and Conditions. However, parents of overseas pupils should appreciate that we do not run a short-term study programme and expect overseas pupils to finish a complete course of study such as Years 9-11 or Years 12-13.

14. Foundation's Terms and Conditions

The terms upon which each School educates each child are set out in the Foundation's Terms and Conditions, which will be made available to parents as part of the admissions process.

Withdrawal

To withdraw an accepted place or to withdraw a current pupil, written notice must be given not later than the first day of the term <u>before</u> the term to which the notice relates. For example, if you wish to withdraw your acceptance of a place with effect from the start of the Autumn term, a term's notice means you need to tell us in writing about the withdrawal, at the latest, on the first day of the Summer term immediately before. A full term's fees become payable in the absence of the notice period given above.

15. Complaints

The Foundation's Complaints Procedure can be sent to prospective parents on request.

16. Record keeping and Data Protection

Applicants' details will be held on file with due regard to data protection legislation, and the WGSF Privacy Notice for Parents and Senior Section Pupils (including prospective pupils), WGSF Privacy Notice for Junior Section Pupils and the WGSF Data Protection Policy are available on the Foundation's website. We ensure that pupils' personal data, including any information relating to their individual needs, assessments and interventions is maintained securely at all times.

The Foundation will not hold the personal data of you or your child for longer than is necessary for a lawful purpose. This will generally be no more than 12 months following an unsuccessful application, but reasons to retain data for longer might include:

- if the parents express an interest in the applicant re-applying for any reason at a later date, or in the potential application of another sibling; or
- to deal with any ongoing matters or gueries arising from the application.

16.1 Admissions Register

For pupils admitted to the School, the School will:

- maintain an Admission Register; and
- inform the local authority of any pupil who is going to be added to or deleted from the School's Admission Register at non-standard transition points in accordance with the requirements of the Education (Student Registration) (England) Regulations (2006) (as amended).

16.2 Results gained in the assessments

All examination papers undertaken by applicants remain the property of the school and are not generally made available to parents. The results of examinations, interviews or other assessments are kept confidential and are not released to prospective pupils or their parents.

17. Safeguarding

The Foundation recognises the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children and young people. We acknowledge that children and young people can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect.

We have adopted the procedures set out in the WGSF Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy in accordance with the statutory guidance, where further details can be found about Designated and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. This policy is available on the Foundation's website.

18. Monitoring, Evaluation and Review of this Policy

The Heads and other staff involved in admissions processes will monitor the implementation and effectiveness of this policy and review it at least annually.

Appendix 1: Admissions Procedures for WGPPS

1.1 Entry into FS1

We normally start the journey with a child in FS1, the term after they turn 3 (e.g. if a child is 3 in March, they will start in FS1 at the beginning of the Summer term, after the Easter holidays). However, we do also take pupils from their 3rd birthday, as long as they pass the assessment for admission. These children will complete more than 3 terms in FS1 before starting school. These children would **not** be eligible for funding for EYFS until the term after they turn 3, so fees would be payable by parents at a rate of £85 per day.

Basic Requirements

- 1. Children will be 3 years old on entry.
- 2. Parents will have registered their child and placed their name on the entry list. However this is no guarantee that a place will be offered.
- 3. Children should be able to access the toilet independently.
- 4. Parents must disclose any medical condition or extra support needed in their present setting.

Places are offered following a short assessment in school. These assessments may take place throughout the year.

1.2 Entry into FS2

Children from other settings are able to apply for a place at WGPPS throughout the academic year.

Places are offered following a short assessment in school. These assessments may take place throughout the year.

Assessment

The assessment will look at the academic level of a child as well as their personal and social development. Usually questions will be about sounds, reading simple words, recognition of colours and understanding the numbers 1-10. The British Picture Vocabulary Test will also be administered.

A report from the child's current school or setting will be requested.

1.3 Entry into Year 1 and Year 2

There are usually a few places available in Key Stage 1 classes. Children from other settings are able to apply for a place at WGPPS throughout the academic year.

Places are offered following a short assessment in school. These assessments may take place throughout the year.

Assessment

Children are invited to spend a session in school to undertake the assessments. Tasks will focus on reading, writing and mathematical skills. The British Picture Vocabulary Test will also be administered. This will enable us to ascertain how a child compares with pupils already within the year group and the likelihood of their being able to move onto the Junior

Section at either WGHS or QEGS. Discussions will take place between the Head and staff concerned as to the suitability both academically and socially.

A report from a child's current school will be requested.

1.4 Specific Educational Needs and / or Disabilities

Parents must notify the Head in writing if they are aware or suspect that a pupil has a specific learning difference. WGPPS will make reasonable adjustments to the entrance procedures where it is deemed that a learning difference is sufficient to create a difficulty for a child to access an examination / assessment. Individual support is offered to all applicants during the assessments but special consideration might be the award of additional time. Evidence to support such an arrangement is needed, and in most cases this would be a report from an educational psychologist. A pupil may be asked to attend an assessment with the Head of Learning Support.

Appendix 2: Admissions Procedures for WGHS

2.1 Admission into Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

The 'Taster' (assessment) Day takes place in January of each year for those pupils wishing to join at the start of the following academic year. Prospective pupils will spend a full day at WGHS Junior Section and will complete, depending on the age of the pupil, up to five age-related assessments: English (comprehension, writing and a word recognition paper), mathematics and non-verbal reasoning. Prospective pupils spend time with WGHS Junior Section pupils at lunchtime and in class during the afternoon.

A confidential reference from the Head of a prospective pupil's current school will be requested prior to the assessments.

If a prospective pupil is unable to attend the 'Taster' Day on the specified date in January, arrangements can be made with the Registrar to reschedule the assessment for the earliest mutually convenient date.

If a prospective pupil wishes to join the school during the same academic year as their taster day, this taster day is arranged at the earliest mutually convenient date. If successful at a taster day, a place will be offered with a start date confirmed through discussions with the Registrar.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents / guardians about the adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

2.2 Admission into Year 7 (11+ Entrance Examination)

The 11+ Entrance Examination takes place in January of Year 6 each year. Prospective pupils will spend a full day at WGHS Senior Section and will complete three examinations: English (Comprehension and Creative Writing) and Mathematics. Pupils will also have an informal interview with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We aim to make the day as enjoyable and relaxed as possible with some fun activities included in the afternoon.

A confidential reference from the Head of a prospective pupil's current school will be requested prior to the assessments.

If a prospective pupil is unable to attend the Entrance Examination on the specified date in January, arrangements can be made with the Registrar to reschedule the examination for the earliest mutually convenient date.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents / guardians about the adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

2.3 Admission into Years 8, 9 and 10 (12+, 13+ and 14+ Entrance Examination)

The Entrance Examination for entry into Years 8, 9 and 10 can be arranged on an ad-hoc basis. Prospective pupils will be invited to spend a day at WGHS and will complete age

appropriate examinations in English (Comprehension and Creative Writing) and Mathematics. Pupils applying for entry into Years 9 and 10 will complete a Science examination. Pupils will also have an informal interview with a member of the Senior Leadership Team or Head of Year.

On the day of the examination, prospective pupils will spend time with pupil "buddies" from their respective peer group at break and lunchtime. There will also be the opportunity for prospective pupils to sample one or two lessons at the end of their assessment.

A confidential reference from the Head of a prospective pupil's current school will be requested prior to the examination.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents / guardians about the adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

2.4 Admission into Year 12

Interviews for prospective pupils take place in December of Year 11, as part of a Sixth Form Taster and Scholarship Examination Day. Interviews may also take place during the year depending upon individual circumstances.

Both internal and prospective pupils will be expected to have a good GCSE profile, including passes at Grade 5 or above in all subjects taken. A Grade 7 or above is <u>normally</u> required in any subject the applicant is intending to study at A-Level; if an applicant is not currently on course to achieve this standard, we will consider this on an individual basis.

Pupils who have not studied to GCSE level a subject they propose to study at A-Level <u>may</u> be required to undertake test papers at the school to ascertain their suitability for A-Level study.

A confidential reference from the Head of a prospective pupil's current school will be requested upon receipt of an Application Form for entry into Year 12.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents / guardians about the adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

Appendix 3: Admissions Procedures for QEGS

3.1 Admission into Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

The 'Taster' (assessment) Day can take place at any time of the year, although we usually suggest a date in late January for those seeking to join in the following September. Prospective pupils will spend a full day at QEGS Junior Section, helping to give them a 'flavour' of the school and how it operates. In the morning, they will complete age-related assessments in mathematics, English (reading comprehension and writing) and reasoning. After this, prospective pupils have the opportunity to spend time with current QEGS Junior Section pupils at lunchtime and in class during the afternoon. We try to accommodate the pupil's interests and strengths so that his overall experience of the school is welcoming and enjoyable.

A confidential reference from the Head of a prospective pupil's current school will be requested prior to the examination.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents about the adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

As a result of the assessment, the Director of Junior Section convenes with the Head to decide to whom offers will be made. Some applicants will have done well enough in the assessment to be offered a place at the Junior Section but, due to the number of applicants, may be placed on a waiting list until such time as a place becomes available.

3.2 Admission into Year 7 (11+ Entrance Examination)

Pupils are admitted into Year 7 both from primary schools external to the Foundation and from QEGS Junior Section. The school makes the assumption that pupils who apply for entry to QEGS in Year 7 will be working at or above the expected standard at the end of Key Stage 2 in their primary schools.

The Entrance Assessments take place in January each year. There are four examinations: English (Writing & Reading), Mathematics, Verbal Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning.

English

- Reading: applicants are asked to read a passage and to answer questions upon it.
- Writing: applicants will be given a choice of titles and will be assessed upon their ability to write an imaginative and coherent piece as well as upon the technical aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Mathematics: There will be a variety of questions testing basic numerical skills, problem solving and logical thinking. Applicants may also be required to demonstrate more developed powers of reasoning and the ability to solve simple problems with a newly introduced concept.
- Verbal and Abstract Reasoning: This is a standard test similar to those which are
 widely available commercially. These tests yield very useful information about pupils'
 abilities that may not be evident from their usual classroom work. They can indicate
 the likely ease with which a pupil will be able to acquire new concepts and
 understand new ideas across a range of school subjects.

Pupils who have performed well enough in the entrance assessments to indicate that they

may be eligible for a place are interviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. This interview forms an important part of the assessment of the applicant's ability to integrate well into and contribute to the school community as well as being able to work to the standard and pace of their peers. Prior to this, a reference will have been sought from each potential pupil's current school.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents about the adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

3.3 Admission into Years 8, 9 and 10 (12+, 13+ and 14+ Entrance Examination)

Admission normally takes place into Year 7 at Senior School and into Year 12. Admission at other ages may also be possible, depending on availability of places.

Applicants will usually be invited to spend a day at the school when they will undertake assessments in Maths and English, and possibly other subjects, appropriate to their age and proposed programme of study. The rest of the day will be spent with pupil guides from their prospective peer group in lesson time and at break/lunch times. At all ages, a reference will be sought from each applicant's current school before a place is offered.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents about the adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

3.4 Admission into Year 12

Applications into Year 12 are received throughout the year with prospective pupils being invited to attend a taster day in December of Year 11.

During the Spring term, applicants are asked to submit A-Level option choices and will be invited to an interview afternoon where they will spend time in our Sixth Form Centre with current pupils and meet the Heads of Department for each subject, the Head of Year 12 and a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Through these discussions, an assessment will be made as to the likely suitability of the pupil for study in the chosen subjects.

Both internal and prospective pupils will be expected to have a good GCSE profile, including passes at Grade 5 or above in all subjects taken. A Grade 7 or above is <u>normally</u> required in any subject the applicant is intending to study at A-Level; if an applicant is not currently on course to achieve this standard, we will consider this on an individual basis.

Pupils who have not studied to GCSE level a subject they propose to study at A-Level <u>may</u> be required to undertake test papers at the school to ascertain their suitability for A-Level study.

A confidential reference from the Head of a prospective pupil's current school will be requested upon receipt of an Application Form for entry into Year 12.

The School shall determine any reasonable adjustments that are required for the prospective pupil based on the information provided and will consult with the parents about the

adjustments, which can reasonably be made, both during the admission process and later as a pupil should the offer of a place be made.

Appendix 4: New Pupil Induction & Transition Process at WGPPS

6.1 Taster afternoons

Children who have accepted a place will be invited for a 'taster' afternoon to meet their form teacher, teaching assistants and other pupils in the class.

6.2 'New to WGPPS' evening

In the Summer Term prior to entry, parents are invited to a 'New to WGPPS' evening to receive information about the school day, activities and uniform, meet their child's form teacher, and meet other parents in their year group.

6.3 Curriculum evening

In the Autumn Term we hold annual curriculum evenings when parents receive information about the delivery of the curriculum, literacy and numeracy teaching within school, the range and type of activities and experiences provided for the children, and how they can support their child's development at home.

There are a range of other curriculum events and workshops held during the year which allow parents to understand more about how the school works and the experiences their children will have in school.

Appendix 5: New Pupil Induction & Transition Process at WGHS

5.1 Admission into Year 3, 4, 5 and 6

Our Junior Section Induction Programme begins well before a prospective pupil joins the school. This includes:

- A New Parents' Welcome Evening.
- A Transition afternoon.
- All new pupils being allocated a 'buddy' from their respective peer group to help them settle into WGHS.

5.2 Admission into Year 7

Our Year 7 Induction Programme begins well before a prospective pupil joins the school. This includes:

- The Head of Year 7 visiting each pupil in their existing school to discuss their move to WGHS.
- A New Parents' Welcome & Information Evening.
- An induction day, with friendship building games and activities with their Form Tutor and new classmates.
- All pupils receive a Year 8 'Buddy' who gets in touch with them and shares their experience of starting at WGHS.

5.3 Admission into Years 8, 9 and 10

This includes:

- Pupils joining Year 8, 9 and 10 being given the opportunity to have a taster / transition day prior to joining the school. Where possible these will be arranged to coincide with the Year 8 Charity Afternoon, the Year 9 Transition Day or the Year 10 Symposium.
- All new pupils will receive a 'Buddy' from their respective peer group to help them settle into WGHS.

5.4 Admission into Year 12

This includes:

- All pupils joining Year 12 (both internal and external) will receive a Sixth Form Induction on the first day of the Autumn term.
- We hold a Year 12 Parents' Induction Evening within the first two weeks of the Autumn term.

Appendix 6: New Pupil Induction & Transition Process at QEGS

6.1 Admission into Year 3, 4, 5 and 6

Our Junior Section Induction Programme begins before a prospective pupil joins the school. This includes:

- A New Parents' Welcome Evening.
- A Transition afternoon.
- All new pupils being allocated a 'buddy' from their respective peer group to help them settle into QEGS.

In the Autumn Term (normally the pupil's first term at the School) we hold a curriculum evening when parents receive information about the delivery of the curriculum, the range and type of activities and experiences provided for the children, and how they can support their child's learning and development at home.

6.2 Admission into Year 7

Our Year 7 Induction Programme begins before a prospective pupil joins the school. This includes:

- The Head of Year 7 visiting each pupil in their existing school to discuss their move to QEGS.
- A New Parents' Welcome & Information Evening.
- An induction day, with friendship building games and activities with their Form Tutor and new classmates.
- All pupils have a 'Buddy Breakfast' with Year 8 pupils who share their experiences and support.
- A residential activity trip within the first term of starting at QEGS.

6.3 Admission into Years 8, 9 and 10

This includes:

 All new pupils will receive a 'Buddy' from their respective peer group to help them settle into QEGS.

6.4 Admission into Year 12

Should the application be successful, pupils will be contacted to confirm their choice of A-level subjects.

This includes:

- All pupils joining Year 12 (both internal and external) will receive a Sixth Form Induction throughout the first week of the Autumn term.
- We hold a Year 12 Parents' Induction Evening within the first two weeks of the Autumn term.

Appendix 7: Additional scholarships

The Foundation has the discretion to offer a limited number of named scholarships. The value and award criteria of the scholarships vary according to the particular terms of the scholarship fund.

Scholarship fund	school	criteria	Value of the award
Hepworth Knott Scholarship	WGHS	Awarded to one pupil joining Year 7, who is eligible for a 75% bursary (or higher) and who performs highest in the Entrance Examination.	100% of school fees, including a 75% Bursary.
Academic Scholarships	WGHS	Awarded to the top performing pupils who sit the Sixth Form Scholarship Examination in January of Year 11.	Determined annually by the school.
Wilson Scholarship	WGHS	Sixth Form scholarship to high achievers from the Kirklees area.	£1,000 per annum
		2 awards available per annum.	
Ford Art Scholarship	WGHS	Sixth Form scholarship offered to an outstanding artist.	£1,000 per annum
		2 awards available per annum.	
Isabel Fowler Scholarship	WGHS	1 year award to a Sixth Form textiles pupil.	£250
Edith Blair Scholarships	WGHS	1 year award for an outstanding pupil in each of art, PE and music.	£350
Mary Smith Scholarship	WGHS	1 year award for an outstanding classics pupil.	£250
Neil Spawforth Memorial Fund	QEGS	Contribution towards sports coaching and training at an international level.	This award is not a reduction in fees but may be offered as a contribution towards qualifying costs.