

CALDAY GRANGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

a DfES designated Technology College & Language College

Founded 1636



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Author:	Mr Michael Twist, Deputy Headteacher		
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1. Admission of Students at Start of Year 7 in September 2015

The planned admissions number for Year 7 for the year commencing 1st September 2015 will be 200. Students who attain the required standard in the arrangements for selection by reference to ability will be eligible to be considered for admission to the school.

The Governors have agreed with Wirral Local Authority that the officers of the Local Authority will administer the process of selection in accordance with the procedures described in this booklet.

Preference forms for admission to secondary schools will be made available to all parents of students in the final year of their primary school. The forms will need to be returned to Wirral Local authority. If you need help please ring 0151 666 4600 and ask for Pupil Services. Preference forms will be completed before the testing process takes place.

If you have any difficulties or wish to receive help, do not hesitate to contact the school –
Tel: 0151 625 2727 Fax: 0151 625 9851 Email: theschool@calday.wirral.sch.uk

Selection Arrangements

A. PRINCIPLES

The Governors' arrangements for selection are based upon the following principles:

- (1) Children of parents who have placed Calday Grange Grammar School as a preference on any Local Authority preference form will be considered if their child has reached the required academic standard.
- (2) Students from all schools will be considered equally in accordance with the published procedures described in this booklet.

B. THE PROCESS

The assessment is based upon the results of two verbal reasoning tests. The tests do not take into account what students have learnt at primary school. They have been designed to predict a student's potential performance at secondary school and so preparation for the verbal reasoning tests, apart from the practice tests, is not necessary. Schools or the Wirral's Children and Young People Department (CYPD) will, however, provide a familiarisation opportunity.

Students take two verbal reasoning tests in the final year of primary education. So that children are not disadvantaged because of their date of birth, in each case the score is adjusted to take account of each child's exact age in years and months to determine a Standardised Age Score (SAS). The two test scores are then added together.

Children who reach the required score will be deemed to have reached the grammar school standard.

In some cases parents may feel that certain factors may have affected the child's academic performance (for example, if his or her education has been severely disrupted because of ill health, change of schools, or any other case). If this does apply it is important that you tell your child's present Headteacher, in writing. The information will be considered by the Independent Assessment Board if the child's case is referred to the Board.

For children whose cases are referred, the Board will see:

- (1) The child's verbal reasoning test scores.
- (2) The representations made by the primary school Headteacher with supporting evidence if necessary.
- (3) Confidential information from you and reports from other professional agencies such as educational psychologists, social workers, and doctors.

The Board then uses its professional judgement to decide whether the evidence clearly shows that the results of the verbal reasoning tests did not truly reflect the child's ability. The Board will decide in each individual case whether or not the child has reached the grammar school standard.

At the end of this process, we will have a complete list of the children who have reached the grammar school standard. This does not necessarily mean that they will be allocated a place at Calday Grange Grammar School; that will depend upon the number of preferences that we have for the school. If the school is oversubscribed the governors will use other criteria to decide which children should be given places. Any offer of a place may be withdrawn if it comes to light that a parent has given misleading information in order to secure an offer.

If the school is oversubscribed - priority will be determined in the following order:

1. To Looked After Children (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 (under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). A previously looked after child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
2. To those children with a valid medical or social reason supported in writing by a doctor, social worker or appropriate professional person.
3. To those children who will have a sibling at the school at the time of admission. A sibling is defined as a brother or sister by the same parents, or half or step brothers or sisters living in the same household.
4. By reference to geographical factors, preference will be given to children with the shortest walking distance to the school as measured by the Local Authority computer mapping system.

Late applications will be considered in accordance with the Local Authority's Co-ordinated Scheme of Admissions.

The Local Authority will inform all parents of school allocations on the nationally agreed date, currently 1st March.

Should the School be oversubscribed for places in Year 7, in accordance with the School Admissions Code of Practice ([Feb 12](#)) 2.14 , the School will maintain a waiting list for students who have achieved the standard but have not been offered a place. This waiting list will be ranked according to the Admission criteria and parents will be informed of their child's position on the waiting list. The list will not be operated for longer than the end of the Autumn term.

2. Admission into the Sixth Form

Priority for entry is given to existing students, but each year the School welcomes a number of boys and girls from other schools. There is no limit upon entry provided their admission does not prejudice the efficient education and use of resources. The planned admission number for external students for Year 12 is 80.

The minimum requirements for entry for all students is six G.C.S.E. passes (or equivalent) at Grades A* - C including English Language and Maths. These must include at least 4 B grades in relevant subjects to support those subjects to be studied at AS level. Entry to the Sixth form will be confirmed after the publication of GCSE results in August.

Students having studied AS level at another centre cannot as a matter of course register to start AS study again at CGGS. This can only happen in exceptional circumstances which are assessed by the Governors Appeals committee. Forms are available from the school.

Except in exceptional circumstances (e.g. ill health) the school will not support the repeating of a year.

3. Progression from L6 in to U6

Students wishing to proceed from L6 (year 12) to U6 (year 13) must have a minimum of 3 AS passes at grade E or above not including General Studies.

4. Admission during Years 7 - 11

Students wishing to be admitted outside the normal round, whether in-year or at the start of a school year which is not a normal point of entry to the school should contact the LA in the first instance, an assessment process will then be initiated. These candidates have their Verbal Reasoning (VR) score evaluated via a computerised test. This provides age adjusted Verbal Reasoning information directly comparable with that generated by in round tests. The entry criteria will then be applied to the Verbal Reasoning scores. Those candidates meeting the score threshold (the Grammar School Standard) will be offered a place if a vacancy exists.

In addition to VR information, the test also provides nationally standardised information about two other key performance indicators. Since there is no opportunity to sit a second paper, candidates who fail to reach the grammar school standard but are borderline (we define borderline as a score within 6 points of the grammar school standard) will have the performance of all three test batteries admitted as evidence to enable the Admissions Panel to assess the suitability of the candidate for a grammar school education.

5. Reassessment

Students may be re-assessed for entry into Calday at the request of a parent if more than a year has passed since any previous test. If it is determined that the student is appropriately placed at Calday he may be transferred when places are available. Such a transfer will normally be made at the end of an academic year. However, the Headteacher will consider entry at other times during the year in exceptional circumstances but not before 1st January for students already in area.

6. Appeals against Admission Decisions

Arrangements have been made for parents who are dissatisfied with an admission decision to appeal against it. The Governors have set up an Independent Appeal Panel against non-admission. The decision of the Panel will be final and binding upon the School. The Governors will not accept multiple appeals in the same academic year unless there are significant changes in circumstances. Further details of the official procedure are available from: The Clerk to the Appeal Panel c/o Calday Grange Grammar School, Grammar School Lane, West Kirby, Wirral CH48 8GG (Telephone 0151-625-2727).