



# Stretford Grammar School

## 2010 Admissions Policy

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April 2009



## **Stretford Grammar School**

### **Admissions Policy for Admission to Stretford Grammar School in September 2010.**

Stretford Grammar School is a foundation mixed Grammar School. The pupil admission number is 128 for Years 7 – 11. The School has no religious affiliation.

#### **Definitions (for the purpose of this Admissions Policy)**

- 'Looked after children' has the meaning set out in the Education Act 2002
- 'Residence' means the main permanent home of the applicant
- 'The School' means Stretford Grammar School
- 'Sibling' means any person (full, half, step, adopted or foster brother or sister) of admissions age who is residing permanently at the same address as the candidate and will be in attendance at Stretford Grammar School at the time of the proposed admission.

#### **Admission at Age 11**

The number of admissions into Year 7 for the year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010 will be 128. Candidates who attain the required standard in the School's testing arrangements for selection by ability (as set out in this Policy) will be eligible for admission to the School.

#### **a) Application Procedure for Admission to Year 7 September 2010**

1. All parents of Year 6 candidates who wish to take the Tests for entry to Stretford Grammar School in September 2010 must complete the School Registration Form and return it by Friday, 25 September 2009. This form can be obtained from the School Admissions Officer or via the website.
2. The School is part of the Trafford Local Authority Co-ordinated Scheme. Parents of children who wish to apply for a place at the school must indicate Stretford Grammar School on their home Local Authority Admissions Form by the specified date.
3. Advice and help with the admissions procedure will be offered to prospective parents during the Open Evening held on the 2nd July 2009 and at any time when prospective parents ring the School Admissions Officer on 0161 866 0130.
4. Two passport sized photograph of the candidate are also required to be submitted with the Application Form.

#### **b) Arrangements for Testing**

1. The details of the arrangements for the School's Testing will be sent to all candidates whose parents have registered for the Test using the School's Registration Form.
2. The School will use test papers designed by GL Assessment. Candidates will sit three elements. These will be a Verbal Reasoning, a Non-Verbal Reasoning and a Maths Test. These Tests will be marked and standardised. Standardisation means that each candidate's score can be compared with those achieved by other children of the same age. An allowance is made so that the youngest children are not disadvantaged. Candidates will also be asked to complete a short internally-set English Test. This fourth element will be an extended piece of writing. It will only be marked if the candidate's test results are reviewed by the Review Panel and they have scored between 340 and 352 in the main three elements.

3. **Testing Date – Saturday, 10 October 2009.** For candidates unable to take part in the main testing session, a second sitting will be held on 2 November 2009
4. Applications for Testing that are received late (i.e. after the 25 September 2009) will be accepted and testing will take place as soon as is practically possible.
5. The age-standardised scores will be placed into one of three bands, according to the following criteria:
  - Candidates who achieve a score of 353 or above will be deemed to have qualified for consideration for admission to Stretford Grammar School. This does not in itself guarantee a place
  - Candidates who achieve a score of between 340 to 352 (inclusive) will be deemed to have qualified for the right to be reviewed by the Review Panel
  - Candidates who achieve a score of 339 or below will be deemed not to have qualified for admission to Stretford Grammar School
  - Outcomes and scores will be communicated to by Stretford Grammar School to parents by the end of November 2009 at the very latest.

#### **c) The Review Procedure**

1. All candidates whose age-standardised score is between 340 and 352 (inclusive) will have their test result reviewed by the Review Panel. This Panel will take account of the following –
  - The test score achieved by the applicant.
  - The standard of the internally-set English Test completed by the applicant. The internally set paper will be put into one of two categories: recommended, or not recommended
2. The Review Panel will consist of the Headteacher, the Assistant Headteacher, the Head of English, the Head of Maths and a teacher with recent school experience.
3. Those candidates whom the Review Panel deem to have qualified for admission under the Right of Review will have their Test score amended to 353R

#### **d) The Over-subscription Criteria**

1. Children in public care (looked after children) as defined in the Admissions Code 2007.
2. Children who will have a sibling attending the School at the time of the candidate's admission
3. Children who live nearest to the School, measured in a direct straight line from the front door of the child's permanent place of residence to the main entrance of the school.  
*If there are more applicants than can be accommodated at the school in criteria 1 and 2 places will be offered to those children in each criteria whose place of residence is nearest to the school as defined in criterion 3. This will be measured using property co-ordinates provided through a combination of the Trafford Local Land and Property Gazetteer (BS7666), other LA data and Royal Mail Postal Address Information. In the case of a child living in a block of flats, the distance will be measured from the communal entrance of the building.*
  - Parents should note that although Stretford Grammar School will inform them of their child's assessment result by the end of November, allocation letters will be sent on the 1 March 2010 by Trafford Local Authority on behalf of the Governing Body of the school.

*Please Note: The child's home address means the address where the child normally and permanently lives on a full-time basis, not the address of any child-minder, grandparent or any other relative. In the case of parents who are separated or divorced and where child-care arrangements are shared between two addresses, the average of the distances of the two addresses from the school will be used for the purpose of determining priority for admission.*

*Proof of residence may be required. The School may withdraw a place at a later date if false, incorrect or misleading information has been provided which has advantaged the applicant in the priority order for over-subscription. Parents must inform the School of any changes to their address of circumstances*

#### e) Right of Appeal

Under the terms of Education Act 1998, all parents of candidates refused **admission** have the right to an Independent Appeals Panel against any decision made by the School. The decision of the Independent Appeals Panel is binding on both the School and parents/carers.

#### Admission for Candidates applying to enter Years 7 to 11 (from another secondary school)

1. These procedures apply both to candidates who have previously been unsuccessful in the School's Testing procedure and to candidates who have not previously been tested. Candidates who have previously applied and sat the School's Admissions Test and who have not achieved the qualifying school for admission cannot re-apply in the same academic year and must leave a minimum of 12 months before applying for re-assessment.
2. Candidates who have previously been unsuccessful in the School's Testing procedure are able to be reassessed in Summer Term 2010 and if assessed as suitable, and places being available, are able to start in September 2010.
3. Candidates will be assessed for their suitability for admission to the School using the following procedure:
  - candidates will receive a Test in English and Maths and their score will be standardised
  - the School will ask for a letter from the candidate's current school, setting out the candidate's current level of attainment and progress and asking for the results of any nationally-taken tests or exams
  - a scrutiny of the candidate's work, including Maths, English, Science, Modern Foreign Languages, History and Geography. Candidates may bring work in other subjects if they wish
  - Under the terms of Education Act 1998, all parents of candidates refused **admission** have the right to an Independent Appeals Panel against any decision made by the School. The decision of the Independent Appeals Panel is binding on both the School and parents/carers.

#### Admission to the Sixth Form

1. The anticipated Sixth Form intake will be over 100. It is expected that the majority will be existing candidates staying on into the Sixth Form. However, the School does admit external candidates into Year 12 and the admission number is 25. The School has no religious affiliation.
2. The minimum academic requirement for entry into the Sixth Form from September 2009 is five GCSE passes – four at Grade B and one at Grade C. If the Grade Bs are not in the subjects to be studied at AS/A2 Level, then the applicant must have Grade Bs in related subjects
3. Candidates from schools where GCSEs are not taken (including overseas schools) should have equivalent qualifications and be able to demonstrate that they are working at a level comparable to the above qualification
4. Priority for applications to the Sixth Form shall be given to candidates who are existing candidates of the School. This will also apply to courses that are over-subscribed. The maximum set size in Years 12 and 13 is 25
5. Further places (above the admission number of 25) may be made available for admission to the Sixth Form, subject to the availability of places on individual courses
6. Candidates from other schools should return completed application forms between October and April each year. The application process will also include a reference on predicted grades from the applicant's school.

7. Where eligible applications for admissions exceed the number of places in the Sixth Form, or the number of applications for a course exceeds the places available on that course, places will be awarded in accordance with the rank order of achievement at GCSE or AS Level for entry into Year 12 or onto the course. In the event of tied scores resulting in more than one applicant being eligible for places then the distance is measured using the property co-ordinates provided through a combination of the Trafford Local Land and Property Gazetteer (BS7666), other LA data and Royal Mail Postal Address Information. In the case of a child living in a block of flats, the distance will be measured from the communal entrance of the building **(Oversubscription Criteria)**

*Please Note: Proof of residence may be required. The School may withdraw a place at a later date if false, incorrect or misleading information has been provided which has advantaged the applicant in the priority order for over-subscription. Parents must inform the School of any changes to their address or circumstances*

8. Under the terms of Education Act 1998, all candidates and parents of candidates refused admission have the right to appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel against any decision made by the School. The decision of the Independent Appeals Panel is binding on both the School and parents/carers. Appeals will be heard within 40 school days and acknowledged within 30 days.