



BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL - ADMISSIONS POLICY

The number of intended admissions for the year commencing September 2021 is **192**. Only applicants who attain the standard prescribed by the London Borough of Bexley for admittance to selective schools in Bexley (these pupils are 'deemed selective') will be eligible to be considered for entry to the school.

Basic Information

Bexley Grammar School participates in the Bexley Co-ordinated Secondary School Admission Scheme and the application process dates will be those set out in that scheme. The School also participates in the local Fair Access Protocol.

All applicants complete their **Local Authority Common Application Form (CAF)** which is returned to their home Local Authority. On the CAF all schools applied to are listed in order of preference. This order is used by the Local Authority when allocating applicants to schools.

Application Process

Applicants must reach the required standard in a set of tests. The tests are marked and the scores are standardised. The scores achieved in these tests are then considered by the selection panel convened by Bexley Council in order to decide which students should be 'deemed selective'.

The assessment decision is based on the **test results**. However, the applicant's primary school Headteacher may request a review of the decisions they disagree with. In such cases, the 'Head Teacher Review Panel' considers all the relevant information before making a decision. This can include the applicant's test scores, recent school work and comments from the applicant's primary school Headteacher.

Note: If Bexley Grammar School is named in a student's Statement of Educational Needs he/she will be admitted to the school if he/she is deemed selective.

Only applicants 'deemed selective' are eligible to be considered for a place at the school.

Over-Subscription Criteria

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which students to admit:

1. Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children (children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order, special guardianship order or residence order).

Top priority is given to children who are, or have been, in public care.

2. Guaranteed Grammar School Place.

Those students identified by Bexley Council as achieving one of the highest 180 scores in the selection tests.

3. Sibling

Those students with a brother, sister or step/half brother or sister living at the same address who are currently attending Bexley Grammar School in Years 7 – 11 at the time of application.

4. Staff Children

Bexley Grammar give priority to 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 was made.

5. Distance

Students will be admitted on the basis of proximity to the school measured in a straight line from the home address. The distance will be measured by the Local Authority's computerised measuring system from the gate of the home address to the middle gate entrance approved by the Governors as the official entrance to the school.

6. Test Score

Where distance is identical to an accuracy of 0.001 of a mile then the scores in the selection tests will be used as a tie-breaker with priority given to the higher score.

Home address is the address at which the child lives with a parent or registered guardian who is the main carer, defined as 'the Home address where the child spends the majority of the school week (Mon-Fri)'

Proof of residency will be required. The offer of a place may be withdrawn if proof of residency is not met.

Where applications exceed places, a waiting list will operate and is maintained by Bexley Grammar School. Names will be listed according to the oversubscription criteria above and the waiting list will be updated to include late and in-year applications.

Where parents are not offered a place they will be informed of their statutory right of appeal to an independent School Appeals Panel and sent further information on the appeal process.

Admission except at the beginning of Y7

Students wishing to join Bexley Grammar School except at the normal point of admission must be deemed selective under testing arrangements for selection similar to those required at the age of 11. Students may not undertake more than one test in an academic year and students that take the test at the usual time in Y6 and who are not deemed selective may not undertake a retest before the summer term of Y7.

Where applications for admissions exceed the number of places available the oversubscription criteria 1 and 3 to 6 above apply. (The second criterion only applies to students applying to join the school for the start of Year 7).