



West Kirby Grammar School

Information for Prospective Applicants



Welcome to West Kirby Grammar School, which is an outstanding girls' school with a small number of boys in the Sixth Form. We hope that this information will be of interest when considering whether to apply for a post at our School, particularly if you are not familiar with the beautiful Wirral Peninsula.

Our School

West Kirby Grammar School is a wonderful, caring environment where all students can and do excel. We are a supportive community with students joining us from the Wirral but also Chester, North Wales, Warrington and Liverpool. Some students travel up to fifty miles a day to attend this school. Traditional values of care, respect for each other, self discipline, good manners and pride go hand in hand with innovation and excellence.

All new students take part in a transition programme to ensure they settle down quickly. Peer mentors help support Year 7s so that everyone quickly becomes a part of our caring community. Students join our House system and immediately develop a sense of belonging.

Our Sixth Form prefect teams quickly ensure that all students join in fun house activities and competitions ranging from House Dance, Debating, House Music and sports.

We are a high achieving, academic grammar school with around 100% pass rate at GCSE and A level. Indeed we have the best academic record locally and feature near the top of the national school league tables. But this is only one facet of our school. We aim to ensure that students have a broad and enriched experience here, developing many new skills, interests and hobbies. We want them to be excited, creative thinkers and good team players. We also aim to develop confidence, self awareness and leadership skills. We equip our students with the necessary skills to enter the next stage of their lives with confidence. Many of our students are successful in gaining places at Oxford, Cambridge, the Russell group universities and apprenticeships with first class companies. A full program of careers guidance, UCAS support and industrial liaison takes place in each year group.

Cooperation and going the extra mile are key to our success. Our highly qualified teaching staff give of their time freely. Opportunities for travel, field work, theatre visits, University visits, gifted and talented workshops, clubs and societies are available for all.



Outside of Lessons

We excel in music, dance, drama, gymnastics, sport, outdoor pursuits and in languages.

Girls have the opportunity to learn Russian, Latin, Mandarin, Italian in addition to French, Spanish and German. Travel to far flung corners of the globe is encouraged with recent trips to Iceland and China a huge success and

planned visits to Rome, New York and LA taking place soon. Theatre groups visit the school and students are taken to the ballet, opera and to concerts. We also hold our own performances with lunch time recitals, school concerts and drama productions.

As a Science specialist college we host master classes and lead the way in new approaches to science and Maths teaching.



A Culture of Success

We celebrate the successes of our students in assemblies, prize giving celebrations, through communication with home and in our newsletters. National and international awards have been achieved by the school, school teams and individuals. Our students recognise they have a role to play in our international and social community so each form group organises fundraising activities. They strive to make a difference to the lives of those less fortunate than themselves. Charity events are planned and huge sums have been raised to support local causes and national campaigns. Organisational skills, marketing and enterprise skills are encouraged and developed.

New Technologies

New technologies are used as a learning tool. Interactive teaching excites our learners and the best facilities ensure standards remain of the highest caliber. Almost all classrooms have interactive whiteboards and projectors and an increasing number have iTVs, which allow

greater interactivity for students. We have bookable ICT suites for all subjects and all staff receive a laptop or tablet device. We are continuing to invest in new and existing technologies to help support students and staff.

Admissions

Girls are able to apply for a place in our school throughout the year. Internal tests are taken in English, Maths and verbal reasoning. In years 8 & 9 a Science test is also taken. A place will be offered if all tests are passed and if a place is available. The standard admission number is 180 in years 7-11 and 190 in years 12 & 13.



The Wirral & West Kirby

The Wirral is a peninsula nestled between North Wales and Liverpool with the River Dee to the left and the famous River Mersey to the right. In total, the peninsula is 15 miles long and around 7 miles wide. There is a wide mix of affluent and deprived areas. West Kirby is found on the North West coast; a small town with a population of 12,000. Of Viking Origin, it was once a thriving holiday resort, but today visitors still come to see the Marine Lake, a large man-made coastal lake, the picturesque Hilbre Island and miles of sandy beaches.

There are excellent transport links to Liverpool, Chester and around the Wirral thanks to the bus and rail networks: West Kirby station is a five minute walk from School. House Prices within 3 miles of the School vary considerably dependent upon where you search. A typical 3-4 bed family home in West Kirby would cost in the region of £180-£250k dependent upon size and exact location. There is also a wealth of flats, both traditional and modern to be purchased and rented.