



# THE KING'S SCHOOL

GRANTHAM

## Admission arrangements for The King's School during the 2025-2026 school year

### Introduction

The King's School is a selective academy. The school was re-founded in 1528 and is a grammar school for boys aged 11 to 18. It strives for high academic standards; the provision of a broad education and to encourage all its members to be lifelong learners.

The school selects its pupils based on academic ability and will leave places unfilled if not enough applicants reach the required qualifying standard (a standardised score of 220 or above).

The King's School's Governing Body is the admission authority for the school. All decisions about admissions, including this policy, are determined by the Governing Body.

### Consultation

The Admission Authority of The King's School has drawn up this policy. Prior to the determination of this policy, the Governing Body has consulted in line with its legislative responsibilities.

### Published Admission Number

The Pupil Admission Number (PAN) is the minimum number of pupils that must be admitted if sufficient applications are received.

The School's Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 7 is 174 pupils per year.

The School's Published Admission Number (PAN) for external Sixth Form applicants is 30 pupils.

### Minimum Standardised Qualifying Score

Throughout this policy, the minimum standardised qualifying score is a standardised score of 220 or above achieved in the GL Assessment tests, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal & Spatial Reasoning, which form the Lincolnshire Grammar Schools Consortium Examination ("the examination"), the results of which determine the minimum entrance requirement.

### Allocation of Places for Years 7 to 11

A candidate must achieve at least the minimum standardised qualifying score for entry in the examination to be eligible for a place at The King's School.

A preference for The King's School must have been expressed on the application or the student must be named on the Education, Health and Care Plan sent to the candidate's home Local Authority.

In accordance with legislation, the allocation of places for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school in the plan will take place first (Children and Families Act 2014).

## Oversubscription Criteria

If the number of applications from remaining candidates who achieved the qualifying score, exceeds the number of places available, offers of places will be made following the criteria listed below in order of priority.

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (see Appendix A for definitions)
2. Children eligible for the full Pupil Premium who achieve the qualifying score, by rank order of standardised score, but limited to 20 places in this category. Children who are unsuccessful in this category may achieve a place in the remaining category.
3. Children who have achieved above the qualifying standard and reside within 30 miles of the academy at the time of application. This will be measured by straight line distance. Places in this category will be prioritised by rank order of standardised score.
4. Any remaining places will then be awarded to other children who have qualified for entry in rank standardised score order.

## Tie-break

In the event of a tie for the final place the following criterion will apply:

- The distance from the home to the school. Priority will be given to the child living nearest the school, as defined (straight line distance as measured by LCC software). This is measured to 3 decimal places using the Post Office address point of the home address to the Post Office address point of the school.
- If the distance criterion is insufficient to distinguish between two or more applicants for the last remaining place, a lottery will be conducted. This will be drawn by an independent person not employed by the academy or working in the Children's Services Directorate of the Local Authority.

The parents and carers of any applicant who is refused a place have the right to appeal to an independent panel.

## Testing for Admission at 11+

The examination is by two GL Assessment tests, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal & Spatial Reasoning, which form the Lincolnshire Grammar Schools Consortium Examination ("the examination"). These tests may only be taken once in an academic year and cannot be retaken during the same school year if the candidate is to be considered for a place at another grammar school which is a member of the Lincolnshire Consortium.

A candidate must achieve at least the minimum standardised qualifying score for entry in the examination to be eligible for a place at The King's School. Attainment of the minimum standardised qualifying score will not in itself result in the offer of a place at the School but will enable a student to be considered for a place at the School in accordance with the admissions criteria set out below.

Lincolnshire County Council publishes full information on the coordinated process leading to admissions to Year 7, available online at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions), or by telephoning 01522 782030.

Parents who wish to enter their son for the 11+ entrance tests should register with The King's School during the Spring Term (January to March, please see the school's website for the exact closing date) when their son is in Year 5. This does not constitute an application for a place at the school, which must be made through the home Local Authority of the child.

## Late Testing - Applications for entry into Year 7 at transition

Late applications can be made while a candidate is in Year 6 of primary education or while Year 7 is in progress; see below for the relevant process:

Candidates still in Year 6 will take the two GL Assessment tests which form the 11+ Examination. Candidates who achieve the standardised qualifying score will, depending on the degree of lateness of the application, either:

- be considered according to the timetable set out in the coordinated scheme; or
- be considered for entry if there are still places available after National Offer Day in March; or
- be placed on the reserve list if all the places have been filled.

Candidates who apply while in Year 7 after the beginning of the academic year when the student is already in Year 7 will be required to sit the GL Assessment papers appropriate to the cohort, which will be marked and standardised to the common Lincolnshire Standard.

It should be noted that the 11+ test may only be taken once while the student is in Year 6 or Year 7.

Those who achieve the standardised qualifying score in the test and make an application to the school through the Local Authority will either:

- be offered a place if there are still places available; or
- be placed on the reserve list (if still in operation) if all the places have been filled.

Candidates who took the 11+ tests while in Year 6 and did not achieve the minimum qualifying score cannot apply for late entry into Year 7 but may apply to sit the school's entrance test in Year 8 or later to be considered for admission.

## Testing for Entry to Years 8, 9, 10 and 11

Applicants for entry into Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 who did not qualify in the Lincolnshire 11+ tests whilst in Year 6 or 7 will be required to take a nationally standardised test. This will test a student's verbal, non-verbal and quantitative ability (age-appropriate Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT) provided by GL Assessment) to assess their suitability for admission to the School. Those who achieve the mean qualifying score of 114 in the test may be considered for entry. The school will make appropriate arrangements for those candidates whose first language is not English or who have Special Educational Needs.

Parents may approach the school to register their son to sit the entrance test. When a place becomes available in the relevant year group, the school will make arrangements for students to sit nationally standardised tests at the school to assess their suitability for admission, unless they have previously passed the 11+ test here or in another Lincolnshire Consortium Grammar School.

The school prefers that a registration for testing is made and that students are tested at the school before an application is made to the Local Authority, however; not having sat the test does not prevent an application from being made.

## Applying for a Place - Arrangements for application for places at transition from Primary to Secondary.

Arrangements for applications for places in Year 7 at The King's School will be made in accordance with Lincolnshire County Council's co-ordinated admission arrangements; parents resident in Lincolnshire should apply online at: [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions) They may also apply by telephone, or ask for a hard copy application form, by telephoning 01522 782030. Parents resident in other areas must apply through their home local authority. The King's School will use the Lincolnshire County Council's timetable published online for these applications. The relevant Local Authority will make the offers of places on their behalf as required by the Department for Education School Admissions Code.

## In-year Admissions - Arrangements for application for places in Year 7 which has already commenced and Years 8-11

To apply for an in-year place, including the Year 7 which has already commenced, an application must be made through Lincolnshire County Council as they co-ordinate admissions on behalf of the school. This should be done online at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions/on-the-in-year-application-form](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions/on-the-in-year-application-form).

The school prefers that a registration for testing is made and that students are tested at the school before an application is made to the Local Authority, however; not having sat the test does not prevent an application from being made.

If an application is made to the Local Authority the school will communicate our decision to the Local Authority on the availability of a place. Parents will receive a response from the Local Authority within 15 days. If the outcome is the refusal of a place, the reason for refusal will be provided along with information on the right of appeal to an independent panel.

### Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. Parents wishing to make these requests must contact their home local authority for guidance on the procedure to follow (in the correct admission round for the actual age of the child for those seeking late entry). It is important for parents to note that they will have the opportunity and responsibility to provide whatever evidence they wish to support their request. The King's School will make decisions based on the circumstances of each case and in the school's view is in the best interests of the child concerned based on the information you provide.

Although the following is not an exhaustive list, this will include taking account of:

- the parent's views;
- any available information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group;
- any evidence that the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely
- the views of the Head at The King's School

To request late entry you must apply with your child's date of birth year group; we understand that this is not the year group you prefer, but unless you do this there is a risk that your child might end up without a place in both your preferred and their date of birth year group. You must state in your application that you are requesting late or early entry and include any supporting documents you wish to be considered by The King's School.

Parents are encouraged to make requests for their child to be considered for entry out of their normal age cohort before applying for admission, so they can be informed of the Governing Body's decision in principle and then make an informed decision as to which schools to express a preference for or make an in-year application to.

# Sixth Form Admissions

## Criteria for Admission:

There is a general academic standard for entry to the sixth form. Year 11 students at The King's School have the right to transfer to our Year 12 provided they meet the academic standards below. We also welcome applications from students attending other schools who also meet these same academic standards.

- An Attainment 8 Score of 52.0 or greater.
- Passes at Grades 4-9 in GCSE English Language and Mathematics.
- Students wishing to study more than two of the subjects: Mathematics; English Literature; Physics; Biology; Chemistry; History; Economics or Philosophy at Advanced Level GCE will need to achieve an Attainment 8 Score of 56.0 or greater.

## Attainment 8

As defined by the DfE, Attainment 8 scores are based on a calculation of pupils' performance across 8 qualifications. This is calculated by adding the sections below together.

- A student's mathematics GCSE result, doubled.
- The higher of a student's grade in English language or English literature, doubled.
- The three highest grades from any of the EBacc qualifications in science subjects: computer science, history, geography, and language subjects.
- The highest three grades of any three other subjects not already used.

An offer of a place does not guarantee access to a particular course or subject. Where a course or subject is oversubscribed, places will be allocated according to best Attainment 8 Score.

A student<sup>1</sup> who has applied to the Sixth Form but has been refused a place has the right to appeal to a Governing Body Panel if they believe they have a strong case for mitigating circumstances that prevented the student from achieving the entrance criteria. Such circumstances may include, for example: a family bereavement, a diagnosed medical illness or a recognised and diagnosed mental health issue. The panel's decision will not preclude the student from a right to an independent appeals panel.

## External Applicants

The School's Published Admission Number (PAN) for external applicants is thirty (30).

In accordance with legislation the allocation of places for children with the following will occur first; Statement of Special Educational Needs (Education Act 1996) or Education, Health and Care Plan (Children and Families Act 2014 where the school is named).

### Oversubscription Criteria for external applicants:

If there are more applicants than available places, the following oversubscription criteria will apply in the order shown below (these criteria will also apply where there are more applicants than places available in a particular A Level subject) where candidates have met the entry criteria:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (see Appendix A for definitions).
2. Children eligible for the full Pupil Premium, limited to 4 places. Children who are unsuccessful in this category may achieve a place in the remaining category.
3. Children who have achieved the entry criteria and reside within 30 miles of the academy at the time of application. This will be measured by straight line distance. Places in this category will be prioritised by rank order of entry criteria,

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<sup>1</sup> In relation to an appeal the student, a parent or a carer, but only one, may make the appeal.

4. Attainment 8 Score; (as defined by the DfE)

In the event of a tie for the final place the following criterion will apply. The distance from the home to the school. Priority will be given to the child living nearest the school. This is measured in a straight line to 3 decimal places using the Post Office address point of the home address to the Post Office address point of the school.

### *Application process for places in the sixth form*

The King's School will process applications for the Sixth Form. The application form can be obtained from <https://www.kings.lincs.sch.uk/sixthformentry> and where possible should be completed in the November prior to entry date to allow for communication about courses and induction.

Formal offers of places in year 12 will be made once GCSE grades are known.

# Appendix A: Definitions

## Looked after children and all previously looked after children

A 'looked after child' (LAC) 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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

Previously looked after children (PLAC) are those children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship orders<sup>2</sup>. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders). Child arrangements orders are defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

## Children who are eligible for the full Pupil Premium

Children eligible for the full Pupil Premium are those who have been registered for FSM at any point in the six years prior to the closing date for application for a school place - 31st October in the year prior to entry for places in Year 7 OR prior to the publication of GCSE results for entry into Year 12. See the Admissions Code (2014), Section 1.39A.

Parents of children eligible for the Pupil Premium (Y6) at the time of application must have ticked the Pupil Premium box when applying for a place through their home Local Authority to be considered for criteria 2.

The King's School requires parents to request that their son's primary school provides verifiable evidence of Pupil Premium eligibility no later than 31st October in the year prior to entry for Year 7.

The school reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if the offer has been made on the basis of an incorrect, fraudulent or misleading application.

## Parent

A parent for the purposes of making an application is a person with 'parental responsibility' or a person who has day to day care of a child. This is in line with section 576 of the Education Act (1996).

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<sup>2</sup> An adoption order is an order under the Adoption Act 1976(see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders). A 'child arrangements order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by Section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

# Appendix B: Explanatory Notes

## Right of Appeal

In all cases where a place is refused at a school the applicant will be informed of their right of appeal to an independent panel. The decision of the independent panel is binding on all parties. Details of how to appeal a decision to refuse admission will be communicated to the applicant at the time of the refusal and will also be available on the Lincolnshire County Council website.

## Fair Access

Local Authorities are required to have Fair Access Protocols to ensure that unplaced children who live in the home local authority, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. This includes admitting children above the published admissions number to schools that are already full. Such children must be deemed qualified for Grammar School Entry to be considered for a place.

The King's School participates in the Fair Access Protocol of Lincolnshire County Council. Students allocated under Fair Access Protocols will take precedence over those on a reserve list or awaiting appeal.

## Fraudulent or misleading applications

As an admission authority, we have the right to investigate any concerns we may have about your application and to withdraw the offer of a place if we consider there is evidence that you have made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information. We reserve the right to check the information provided so we can apply the oversubscription criteria accurately and fairly.

We reserve the right to check any address and other information provided so we can apply the oversubscription criteria accurately and fairly. As an admission authority we have the right to investigate any concerns we may have about your application and to withdraw the offer of a place if we consider there is evidence that you have made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information, for example if a false address was given which denied a place to a child with a stronger claim. If a place is withdrawn, the application will be considered afresh and you will be advised of your right of appeal if a place is refused.

## Further appeals

The school will not accept repeat applications for places in the same academic year. No fresh appeal can be made if an independent appeals panel has refused a place as part of an application for the same year group.

## Distance measurements

Straight line distance is calculated from the post office address point of the child's home to the post office address point of the school. Measurements are made in miles to three figures after the decimal point. The school uses the measurements made by Lincolnshire County Council's school admissions team using an electronic mapping system to calculate this measurement.

## Home Address

By home address we mean the address where the child lives for the majority of term time with a parent as defined in section 576 of the Education Act 1996 who has parental responsibility for the child as defined in the Children Act 1989. Where a child lives normally during the school week with more than one parent at different addresses, the home address for the purposes of school admissions will be the one where the child spends the majority of term time. If a parent can show that their child spends an equal amount of time at both addresses during school term time, they can choose which address to use on the application. If a parent has more than one home, we will take as the home address the address where the parent and child normally live for the majority of the school term time. We do not take into account an intention to move for the purposes of the oversubscription criteria except for armed forces personnel and returning crown servants as outlined below.

## Reserve Lists (Waiting List)

In the event that the School is unable to admit all candidates who achieve the criteria for admissions a reserve list will be drawn up.

For admission into the intake year the admission authority for this School will operate a reserve list. In the normal admissions round if we refuse a place at our school your child is automatically placed on the reserve list, unless they have been offered a higher preference school.

This list is ranked in the order of the oversubscription criteria, as required by the school admissions code. This means that names can move down the list if someone moves into the area or makes a late application and is higher placed under the oversubscription criteria. The Admission Authority must not take account of the time your child has been on the list.

For the intake year, the Schools Admission Team keeps the list until the end of August. After this the school keeps the reserve list until the end of the summer term in Year 7. Parents wishing their child to remain on this list for higher year groups must contact the school in writing during each academic year.

The School holds a reserve list for all year groups, in the order of the oversubscription criteria given above. The school will always offer any place that becomes available to the child with the highest priority under the oversubscription criteria. The reserve list is kept for the academic year and is cleared on the last day of the summer term each year.

A child will only be added to the reserve list if they have achieved the required standard in the selection tests or have been deemed qualified by the independent appeal panel.

## Children of UK service personnel (UK Armed Services) and Crown Servants returning from abroad

For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting, or crown servants returning from overseas, the governors will process an application based on a future address in advance of the family arriving in the area, provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date.

Governors will use the address at which the child will live when applying their oversubscription criteria, as long as the parents provide some evidence of their intended address. Governors will use a Unit or quartering address or unit address as the child's home address when considering the application against their oversubscription criteria, where a parent requests this. The unit will be the base to which the parent has been posted.

The school's Admission Authority will not refuse a place to a service child or crown servant child, who is qualified for entry, because the family does not currently live in the area. If a place is refused, parents will be informed of their right of appeal.

Policy draft agreed by Governors	20 September 2023
Policy Consultation period	20 October 2023 - 15 December 2023
Policy determination date	21 February 2024