



## FAQS – SECONDARY TRANSFER 2026

### GENERAL

#### HOW DO I MAKE AN APPLICATION?

1. Send a completed Common Application Form (CAF) form to your own Local Authority (the Authority to whom you pay your Council Tax) with Watford Grammar School for Girls as a named School. This will be available from your Local Authority online in September 2025, and **MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE APPLICATION DEADLINE.**
2. Complete our online School Information Form (SIF) form (this will be available on the admissions page of our website from September 2025).

#### WHAT IS THE DFE NUMBER FOR WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS?

9195403

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT SUBMIT A SCHOOL INFORMATION FORM (SIF) TO WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS?

We will not know about your application until December and, if we need to clarify any aspect of your application, we will be unable to contact you. This may result in a delay to your application particularly if we need to carry out address checks or ascertain a sibling or cross sibling link. If we need to carry out address checks, this will almost certainly delay your application being confirmed by us to the Local Authority.

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT SUBMIT A COMMON APPLICATION FORM (CAF) TO MY LOCAL AUTHORITY?

Even if you take the Academic and/or Music tests, we will **not be able to offer your daughter a place.**

#### IF I LIVE OUTSIDE HERTFORDSHIRE, DO I STILL NEED TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL?

No, but you MUST complete the Common Application Form for your own Local Authority (the Authority to whom you pay your Council Tax) with Watford Grammar School for Girls as one of your named preferred Schools.

#### CAN I APPLY IF MY POSTCODE IS NOT IN ONE OF YOUR POSTCODE AREAS?

Last year the school received almost 900 applications for 210 places and this means that, because of our over subscription criteria, applicants outside the Admission Area have no chance of their application being successful unless they have an EHCP naming our school, are (Previously) Looked After, or have a sister or staff link to the school.

Unless you are intending to apply to **another** school within the SW Herts Consortium (i.e. NOT Watford Girls), under whose admission arrangements your child would be considered for a place, there is no point in making your child take the tests.

Having taken the test will not make your child eligible for a place unless the application complies with the rest of our admissions arrangements.

#### **CAN I APPLY UNDER MORE THAN ONE CRITERION?**

Yes, you can apply under as many criteria as are relevant.

#### **WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CRITERION 2 (PROXIMITY) AND CRITERION 6 (DISTANCE)?**

The distances of ALL applicants are measured and placed in order. Criterion 2 (known as "Distance 1") is the initial 10% of places that are offered. Criterion 6 (known as "Distance 2") places are offered **if** there are any places left after allocating Criteria 1-5, 7 and 8. We simply return to the distance list and continue to work down it. The number of places we are able to offer under Criterion 6 varies from year to year and is dependent on how many places we have offered under Criteria 1-5. For example, if we receive a lot of sibling and cross-sibling applications, the number of places we are able to offer under Criterion 6, or "Distance 2", will be less.

#### **HOW NEAR TO THE SCHOOL DO I HAVE TO LIVE TO QUALIFY UNDER THE DISTANCE CRITERIA?**

This will vary from year to year depending on who is applying and where they live. Information regarding the furthest child admitted under the Distance criterion for previous years is on the website under 'Historical Information'. See Admissions Criteria for more information on the measurement. As a general rule of thumb, this distance is generally well under 1km.

#### **DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT MY CHILD'S SPORTING ABILITIES AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?**

No. This does not affect her application.

#### **IS THERE A SCHOOL BUS FROM NEAR MY HOME ADDRESS?**

There is no School transport. The School is a short walk from Watford Town Centre which is well served by buses. Many girls travel by train to Watford High Street station which is close to the School. Increasing numbers of girls walk or cycle to School.

NB: If your query is not answered here, please read the full Admission Criteria.

## ENTRANCE TESTS

The parents of any child currently in Year 5, who might apply for a place in Year 7 in September 2026 at any of the Consortium schools under the Academic Criteria or Music Criteria will need to register with the Consortium. The best way to do this is via the South West Herts Consortium Schools website which can be found [here](#).

**PLEASE NOTE:** Application for the South West Herts Consortium Schools tests is **NOT AN APPLICATION FORM TO ANY SCHOOL. YOU MUST STILL APPLY VIA YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY. THE RULES FOR APPLICATION ARE NOT THE SAME AS FOR, SAY, THE BUCKS OR SLOUGH 11+.**

The Consortium Schools are: Watford Grammar School for Boys, Watford Grammar School for Girls, Parmiter's School, St. Clement Danes School, Croxley Danes School (music only), Rickmansworth School and Queens' School. You should make a single test application which is valid for all of the Consortium Schools.



The school's admissions tests are administered jointly by the South West Herts Admissions Consortium (**NOT HERTFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**). Your child will take one test regardless of which of the Consortium school/s you might later apply to. Your child will not need to take a different test for each Consortium school.

An electronic form to register for the tests will be available from Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025 only. Late applications will not be accepted. The website address is: [www.swhertsschools.org.uk](http://www.swhertsschools.org.uk) and full instructions can be found on how to register.

## Key Testing Dates 2025 for Secondary Transfer 2026

<b>Online registration for the tests opens</b>	<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>
<b>Registration Closes</b>	<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>
<b>Date of Test Venue Notification</b>	<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June (around noon)</b>
<b>Special Provision Notification Deadline</b>	If your child requires extra time or special support, upload written evidence from the Primary School Head or SENDCo to the portal during the application. The deadline is <b>June 6<sup>th</sup></b> . After this, you won't be able to submit the evidence, and your child will be offered the special provision on a reserve test day. No hard copy submissions are allowed; use a scanner or ask the primary school for help. Contact the Consortium Administration Team if trying to submit after the deadline.
<b>Academic Test</b>	<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September</b>
<b>Music Test</b>	<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>
<b>First Round Music Scores Notified to Parents</b>	<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September (around noon)</b>
<b>Start of Second Round Music Tests</b>	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September</b>
<b>Scores Notified to Parents</b>	<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October (around noon – it will <u>not</u> be at 9.00am)</b>

Parents must log in to the parent portal at regular intervals to ensure they have up to date information, particularly for the music test.

For questions not covered in the FAQs or if you need an alternative test date (e.g., due to illness, religious observance, or public health measures), contact the Test Administrators at [info@swhertsschools.org.uk](mailto:info@swhertsschools.org.uk). Note: The team doesn't accept phone calls, and email responses will be within 48 hours during term time, but not during school holidays.