GLOUCESTERSHIRE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS'
ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Year 7 Entry in September 2027

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document summarises information related to the admissions arrangements of the seven Grammar Schools in Gloucestershire. Please consult websites for further information including the admissions policy for each school:

Grammar School	Website
Denmark Road High School, Gloucester	www.denmarkroad.org
Marling School	www.marling.school
Pate's Grammar School	www.patesgs.org
Ribston Hall High School	www.ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk
Sir Thomas Rich's School	www.strschool.co.uk
Stroud High School	www.stroudhigh.gloucs.sch.uk
The Crypt School	www.cryptschool.org

2. ENTRANCE TEST INFORMATION

The Entrance Test comprises two papers of approximately 45-50 minutes in length (with additional time for instructions and some worked examples), sat on the same day with a short break between. The answers are completed on separate answer sheets which are electronically marked by an independent company appointed by Gloucestershire Grammar Schools. The Entrance Tests are the same for all seven grammar schools in Gloucestershire and are sat on the same day. Familiarisation material is available on each of the grammar school websites. The test is used to test the ability of students who wish to attend one of the 7 grammar schools in Gloucestershire. It is used for this purpose alone and therefore is not a diagnostic tool.

Rough paper will be provided and candidates may also use their test booklet for rough work and calculations.

3. REGISTRATION PROCESS – From 12 noon on Monday 18 May 2026 to 12 noon on Friday 26 June 2026.

To register for the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools' Entrance Test please visit any of the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools' websites where you will find the link to an online registration form to register your child to sit the test. Paper copies of the registration form can be requested from any of the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools (for contact details see section 9).

Please ensure that your contact details are correct when you register. Your email address is particularly important and will be used for all subsequent correspondence. Your email address should be accessible outside normal working hours (please check your JUNK and SPAM folders for emails).

If your child has a special educational need, disability or any medical issues or other personal information relevant to sitting the test of which the school should be aware please let us know in the relevant section of the registration form (for more details see section 6).

There is a facility to share your child's result with more than one Gloucestershire Grammar School. Please be aware that you **must** share your child's result with each School at which you are interested in a place.

As part of the registration process you will need to confirm that the information you have submitted is accurate. After the end of the registration period, you will be provided with details of the school at which your child will be sitting the test (Allocated Test Centre). Further details about the registration process will be available on the registration website once registration opens. You will receive no further correspondence until the Allocated Test Centre sends out details of the Testing Arrangements nearer the test date. If you have not received anything **by Monday 8 September 2026**, please contact your Allocated Test Centre.

Please be aware that there may be limited testing places at some Test Centres and your child may need to sit the test at an alternative venue. If a Test Centre reaches its maximum capacity, then ALL spaces at that Test Centre will be allocated by gender and distance i.e. those living closest to the Test Centre will be given priority. Any overspill of candidates for that Test Centre will be allocated a gender appropriate Test Centre closest to the pupil's home address (as recorded on the registration form). The location of your Test Centre will not affect your child's chances of getting a place at any of the grammar schools provided you specify which of the grammar schools you wish to share your child's result with at registration.

If your child is a 'Child in Care' or was previously a 'Looked After Child', or is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, please see the relevant school website for details of how this affects admissions. You **must** indicate on the test registration form if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium. The Allocated Test Centre will confirm your child's eligibility by making appropriate enquiries through your child's primary school and/or the Local Authority.

<u>Expected date of birth</u>

Your child's Date of Birth will normally be between **01/09/2015** and **31/08/2016**. If your child's Date of Birth lies outside this range you must obtain written consent (letter or email) from each of the schools you list as a share school on your registration form. As an overage or underage candidate, if you do not obtain the written consent of all the schools you list as shares on your registration form, your registration will not be processed. **It is ESSENTIAL that written consent (letter or email) is obtained BEFORE you attempt to register.**

The Gloucestershire Entrance Test is targeted at the expected age range for Year 6 children. Sometimes there is a need for schools to assess candidates who are outside the expected age range. In the event that candidates are legitimately 'too old' or 'too young' for Year 6, their ages are capped when calculating age standardised scores.

Candidates with a date of birth before the expected date have their age capped because they would be unduly penalised for being in the year group below that for their age, which is likely to be due to complex reasons, or missing school due to illness. (It is only in rare and exceptional circumstances where admissions authorities will consent to the testing of over age candidates and written consent from each school will be required before registration for the entrance tests.)

Candidates with a date of birth after the expected date have their age capped because the child would need to be able to work at the level of the rest of their cohort, and so are not inappropriately advantaged by being tested a year early. **Written consent from each school will be required BEFORE registration for the entrance tests.**

4. TESTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Entrance Test will take place on **Saturday 12 September 2026**.

You will receive notification of your Allocated Test Centre along with the venue testing arrangements by Monday 8 September 2026. Information will also be updated on each of the Grammar Schools' websites. For specific testing arrangements you should contact your Allocated Test Centre.

Test Day ID Form:

You will need to complete the **Test Day ID Form, including a "passport style" photograph of your child**. Your child **must** bring this completed form to your Allocated Test Centre on the day. This will be retained until the grammar school admission process is completed.

If your child is unwell on the morning of the test, or if last minute problems arise, please contact your Allocated Test Centre and advise accordingly. An alternative date is set aside (approximately 10 days later) for children whom the Test Centre were assured were ill on 12 September. You may be asked to provide a letter from your Doctor.

If there are any extenuating circumstances which might affect your child's performance on the day of the Entrance Test, please bring this to the attention of your Allocated Test Centre before the test is taken. This information may be relevant in the event of an appeal but will not have any bearing on your child's result.

Your child may only sit the Entrance Test at one of the designated Test Centres.

5. RESULTS

If the test proceeds as planned on 12 September parents/carers should be informed of their child's result in time for parents/carers to complete the Common Application Form (CAF) and return it to the Local Authority by their deadline of 31 October 2026.

Nearer the time further details will be displayed on each individual school's website. Each school will specify on their website how results will be issued. If parents/carers have elected (on the Grammar School Registration Form) to share their child's result with more than one school, you will receive a result for each school.

The answer sheets cannot be obtained by either the Schools or parents. The marking is carried out by an independent company and is rigorous and accurate.

Schools will provide the Local Authority with a list of qualifying pupils (in ranked order) who have expressed a preference for their School. The Local Authority will then allocate places under the Local Authority Coordinated Admissions Scheme. **Parents/carers should be aware that achieving the qualifying standard does not guarantee a place at your preferred school.**

Places are allocated by the Local Authority in rank order (unless the child is a 'Child in Care' or was previously a 'Looked After Child' or immediately after being 'Looked After' became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order) and has met the qualifying standard for a particular grammar school. Other places are allocated according to each school's admission criteria, as set out in each school's Admission Policy (which can be found on their websites).

If pupils do not get a place at their preferred school on 'National Allocation Day', it is possible (providing the child has met the admissions criteria) to opt to see if a place becomes available. This process is known as 'Reconsideration' or the Waiting List. The Local Authority manages this process. Parents must return their request to be added to a preferred school(s) waiting list to the Local Authority by the date specified on the Allocation Day Letter (for Gloucestershire this is 15 March). For those candidates who live out of county in addition to liaising with your own local authority, it is advisable to download the 'waiting list common application form' via the GCC website and email the completed form to school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk by 15 March. The outcome is normally advised to parents after 5 April 2027. Parents/carers who choose this option must accept a place at the school should one become available. After 5 April 2027, pupils who have met the qualifying standard, but have not been offered a place, will remain on the relevant school's waiting list until such time as specified in the relevant school's admission policy. Please contact the appropriate school for further information.

6. SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OR DISABILITIES (SEN-D)

Parents/carers must provide details of any special educational need or disability on the Registration Form and supporting evidence will be required by 12 noon on Friday 26 June 2026. It should be sent to the Registration Manager by emailing address listed on the registration webpage. If parents/carers do not provide suitable evidence by the deadline it may not be possible to put appropriate testing arrangements in place.

Your Allocated Test Centre may approach your child's primary school to obtain further information.

In order to be considered for additional time, a child must have an EHC Plan, a Statement of Special Educational Needs or be at SEN Support on the SEN D Register, and/or their primary school must confirm that they have been assessed as being eligible to receive additional time in exams. Documented evidence must be provided such as copies of IEPs/TSPs or any other SEN Target setting plans and/or Educational Psychologist's reports. These reports should be no more than 2 years old.

A panel, consisting of representatives from all seven Gloucestershire Grammar Schools will meet (after the closing date for registrations and before the test day) to agree appropriate access arrangements (e.g. extra time, large print, etc.) for each individual case and to ensure access arrangements are applied consistently across all seven Grammar Schools. Parents/carers will be notified of the panel's decision.

Medical considerations can also be taken into account (e.g. a scribe for a child with a broken arm).

The Grammar Schools are committed to providing mobility and access arrangements in compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act and Equal Opportunities. Please ensure you inform your Allocated Test Centre of any particular arrangements that may be required for your child e.g. wheelchair access.

7. COMMON APPLICATION FORM (Managed by the Local Authority - Deadline normally 31 October 2026

The Common Application form (CAF) is the form that **must** be completed to enable the Gloucestershire County Admissions Team to offer a secondary school place for your child. This form can be completed online. If you live outside Gloucestershire, you should contact your own Local Authority.

For each grammar school you must meet the qualifying standard and any other criteria as stipulated in its admissions policy to be eligible to be considered for a place.

Further information can be found at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

8. APPEALS

If parents are dissatisfied with the place they have been allocated by the Local Authority on National Allocation Day, they have the statutory right to appeal to another school. Each individual school administers its own appeals and a request to appeal must be made in writing to the Clerk to the Appeals Panel, c/o the school for which you are appealing for a place. Please contact the school for additional information. Details can also be found on each of the schools' websites. Appeals are heard by an Independent Appeals Panel. The Clerk to the Appeals Panel will contact parents with further details once an appeal is lodged.

9. GLOUCESTERSHIRE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

Cheltenham

Pate's Grammar School, Princess Elizabeth Way, Cheltenham, Glos, GL51 0HG (Mixed) **Tel:** 01242 538238

Gloucester

Denmark Road High School, Denmark Road, Gloucester, GL1 3JN (Girls) **Tel:** 01452 543335

Ribston Hall High School, Stroud Road, Gloucester, GL1 5LE (Girls) **Tel:** 01452 382249

Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Gloucester, GL2 0LF (Boys) **Tel:** 01452 338400

The Crypt School, Podsmead, Gloucester, GL2 5AE (Mixed) **Tel:** 01452 530291

Stroud

Marling School, Cainscross Road, Stroud, Glos, GL5 4HE (Boys) **Tel:** 01453 762251

Stroud High School, Beards Lane, Stroud, Glos, GL5 4HF (Girls) **Tel:** 01453 764441

10. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Allocation	Assigning of places by the Local Authority on National Allocation Day on 1 March.
Appeals	An Independent Panel of 3 people. Panel hearings take place between May and July and need to be lodged by mid-April with the relevant schools. Appeals can occur when there are insufficient places for a pupil who has met the qualifying standard or if your child has not met the qualifying standard but you consider there are extenuating reasons for why your child should have a place at the preferred school. You have a legal right to appeal.
CAF – common application form	The form that needs to be completed online and returned to the Local Authority by the end of October with your preferences for schools. Please note the results of the Entrance Test are issued prior to this.
Co-ordinated scheme	All offers of places at Gloucestershire Secondary Schools are allocated by the Local Authority under the Local Authority Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme.
EHC Plan	Educational Health and Care Plan
Grammar school	A school which selects pupils according to academic ability and each pupil must pass a test in order to be considered for a place.
IEP / TSP	Individual Education Plan / Targeted Support Plan
National Allocation Day	All places are allocated on 1 March by the Local Authority, unless this falls on a weekend day and it will move to the nearest Monday.
Preference	Up to 5 preferences may be expressed for secondary schools in Gloucestershire on the CAF. Schools are not advised of preference order.
Pupil Premium	Pupils who have been eligible for Free Schools Meals at any point in the previous six years are entitled to additional funding to support their education.
Registration form	An online form available from the websites of each of the schools to register your child for the Entrance Test. You need to complete this only once – for the school you wish your child to sit the test at.
Results	Whether or not your child has met the qualifying standard – **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT AN OFFER OF A PLACE** but should help you to make your decision about preferences on your CAF.
Share Schools	When registering for the Entrance Test you may ask for the result to be shared with other Gloucestershire Grammar Schools.
Standardised scores	Test Results are standardised according to the age of the pupil at the time of the Entrance Test by year, month and day.
Test Centre	The school at which your child is allocated to sit the Entrance Test. You will be notified **BY** Monday 8 September 2026 of the detailed arrangements for Test Day at your child's Allocated Test Centre.
Waiting list	If you are not happy with the place which has been allocated to your child on 1 March you can ask the Local Authority to place your child on a waiting list for another school.