

## MID-YEAR ADMISSIONS TO SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL

Entry to Spalding High School at the start of Year 7 is by 11+ testing, administered by the primary school, on its premises in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Grammar Schools Consortium. Girls sit a verbal reasoning test and non-verbal reasoning in Year 6 of the primary school, and those who attain an aggregate score of 220, or more, are deemed to be in the top 25% of the ability range, and, therefore, suitable for a grammar school education. When the School is full (our admission number is 150 per year, i.e. five forms of 30) we apply the Lincolnshire Admissions Policy which gives preference to siblings and then adopts the distance from school rule measured by the driving distance between home and school however, in line with the County policy, preference is given to pupils who live in the School's free transport area. For more detail, please see "Going to School in Lincolnshire".

Pupils who wish to be tested for a place at the High School during the early part of Year 7 will be asked to sit two 11+ tests. If they are successful, they will be offered places unless the School is full. In this case we shall not be able to offer places as the School is not permitted to exceed its published admission number. Parents will, however, have the right to appeal for a place, and advice will be given on how to proceed with the appeal process.

Pupils who wish to join Spalding High School after the middle of Year 7, will be asked to sit the relevant test listed below according to age. It is felt that, after the middle of Year 7, the 11+ is no longer an effective form of selection. Our intention is to ascertain a pupil's ability and to determine whether or not they would be happy with the standard and pace of work at the High School. We try to make the procedure as informal as possible, but it must be accurate and fit for purpose. We shall also refer to SATS results, where appropriate. As a guide, most pupils who gain entry to the High School have scored levels 4 or 5, at Key Stage 2, and, at Key Stage 3, most High School pupils attain Level 6 and above.

### ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

These are based on nationally recognised and standardised GL Assessment tests.

Until the age of 11.03 years, pupils will sit two NFER Assessment 11+ tests, one verbal reasoning and one non-verbal reasoning. (The 11+ is age weighted up to 12.06 months).

Between the ages of 11.03 and 14 years, pupils will sit a GL Assessment verbal reasoning (age 12 and 13, which is suitable for pupils aged 11.03 to 14.03) and a GL Assessment non-verbal reasoning (age 12 – 14, suitable for pupils aged 11.03 to 15.03).

Over the age of 14 years pupils will sit NFER Cognitive Abilities Test 3, Level G (suitable for pupils aged 13.06 to 16+, although most appropriate for pupils over 14). Pupils will sit three batteries, i.e. verbal, quantitative and non-verbal.

12-14 tests will be age weighted, and pupils will be expected to attain an average score of at least a 'moderately high score' of 115 on each paper.

Pupils sitting Cognitive Abilities Tests 14+ will be expected to attain an average Level 7 (Stanine Scales) which should place them in the top 25% of the ability range.

If pupils are successful, they will be invited to the School for a tour and to meet individual subject staff to discuss the work covered in the previous school.

### Pupils for whom English is not the first language

Where a pupil's English proficiency is deemed to be inconsistent with her academic ability, the following procedure will be adopted:

Pupils will sit a non-verbal paper or, if aged 14+, the quantitative and non verbal papers.

Parents have a right to appeal at any stage of the process if the applicant is turned down. Details of the appeal process are available from the School.

Ratified April 2014