



**BROAD HORIZON**  
—TUITION CENTRE—

# 11 Plus Process

## Information Pack

**How does the 11 plus process work?**

***Please keep this pack until after your child has sat the 11 plus exam, to refer back to when needed.***

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This document aims to answer some of the questions you may have regarding the 11 plus process leading up to the exam, and also about the process once you have received your child's 11 plus results.

The information in this pack is specific to the GL exam board for the grammar schools in the West Midlands. Please note that grammar schools outside of this region may have different requirements and processes.

## Which exam boards does Broad Horizon cover?

As of January 2023, all the non-private local grammar schools have opted for the **GL exam board**, so all of our content at Broad Horizon is based on the GL content. CEM no longer creates 11 plus exam papers.

## How many application forms do I fill out?

**One.** One application form covers all the grammar schools in Walsall, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shropshire and Warwickshire. On page 10 you can see which grammar schools fall under this application.

## When and where do I apply for the exams?

The exam application will be completed online. Broad Horizon Tuition will send you the link to apply for the exams once the applications are open, usually early in April/May of Year 5.

**Please refer to the timeline on the next page.**

(Usually between 5000 to 8000 children apply for these exams.)

**If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, then you MUST mention this on your exam application. (see page 9)**

## Exam Timeline

### **April/May of Year 5**

Around April/May of Year 5, the application portal opens.

### **June of Year 5**

The application portal closes in June, usually near the end of June. You cannot apply for the exam after the cut-off date.

### **September of Year 6 (exam month)**

The 11 plus exam is usually around the middle of September.

### **October 16th of Year 6**

Around October the 16th you should **receive your results**, usually via email. Further down we will discuss what the results mean and how to interpret them, as it not as simple as a pass or a fail.

**(refer to pages 5 to 8)**

### **October 31st of Year 6**

This is the deadline to make your child's secondary school choices to your local authority through your child's primary school. On the next page, we will discuss how to make your choices. **(refer to pages 5 to 8)**

### **March of Year 6**

Around March 1st your child will officially be offered a place in a secondary school. **This is when you officially find out if your child has passed the 11+**



## Filling out the Local Authority Preference form

By **31st October of Year 6**, you must submit your secondary school preferences to your local authority, listing a **first, second, and third choice**. Your child's primary school will guide you through this process.

**Important:** If you do not put the grammar school you wish for your child to attend as your first choice, then that grammar school **will not** prioritise your application as you did not prioritise them on your school choices even if your child passes the exam for that grammar school.

**When deciding your preferences, you should carefully consider your child's results, as explained below.**

## October Results Explained

Under normal circumstances, you will receive your child's results by 16th October of Year 6, allowing you time to consider secondary school preferences before submitting them to your local authority.

It's important to note that the results letter/email **does not confirm** whether your child has passed or failed, **nor** does it offer you a school place. Secondary school places are officially allocated in March of Year 6 (**see timeline on page 4**).

The October results will simply state your child's score. You will also be able to view the cut-off scores from the previous two years (in recent years, this information is usually published online rather than included in the results letter/email).

As cut-off scores typically change only slightly each year, comparing your child's score with the previous years figures should give a good indication of how to complete your local authority preference form. Broad Horizon can guide you through this process. **An example is provided on the next page.**

## Has my child passed or failed? (October Results)

**The October results are not the official offerings of a place in a school.**

**Below is a colour coded example of the results you will receive in October.**

“Your child has achieved a total standardised score of 267”

“The table below provides information on the highest and lowest scores on the test for the last 3 years. The **average score is around 200**, so this should give you an idea how well your child has performed.”

Year of entry	Number of places available	Lowest Score on Test	Highest Score on Test	Qualifying Score	Lowest Score Allocated a Place
September 2025 (current)	180			200	
September 2024	180	124	270	200	218
September 2023	180	132	267	200	222

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 The lowest, highest, and average scores are **not relevant** when determining whether your child has passed or failed, despite the letter stating that these figures “should give you an idea.”– they don’t.

Your child achieving a score **higher** than the “Qualifying score” **does not mean your child has passed their 11 plus**. This just means the grammar school will now **consider** your child’s application.

For example, if 1000 children achieve a score higher than the qualifying score, but the Grammar School only has 180 places, then your child still needs to have achieved a score higher than the other 820 children, otherwise they will not be offered a place.

If your child achieves a score **lower** than the “Qualifying Score”, the grammar school **will not** even consider your application, as this is the minimum qualifying threshold. In this case, you should **not** select that grammar school as any of your school choices.

Year of entry	Number of places available	Lowest Score on Test	Highest Score on Test	Qualifying Score	Lowest Score Allocated a Place
September 2025 (current)	180			200	
September 2024	180	124	270	200	218
September 2023	180	132	267	200	222

**The “lowest score allocated a place” (also known as the cut off score)** is what you need to compare your child’s results against.

**If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium** then you compare against the Pupil Premium score (You needed to have mentioned on your application form that your child is eligible for pupil premium). On the next page we will explain how to interpret these scores.

**If your child is not eligible for pupil premium,** then you compare against the non-pupil premium scores.

**(See page 9 for information on Pupil Premium.)**

The **“lowest score allocated a place”** is the best indication as to whether your child has passed the 11 plus or not. This score is the results achieved by the **last** pupil to gain entry in the last two years (so all the other pupils granted entry would have scored higher). This cut-off score changes each year.

**If your child’s results are far below** the previous year’s cut-off score (lowest score offered a place), it is better to consider another school as your first preference, because in this situation, it is highly unlikely your child will be offered a place, and choosing a more realistic option will help you avoid missing out on a more suitable first choice.

**If your child’s results are slightly lower than, or similar** to the previous year’s cut-off score (lowest score offered a place), we recommend listing that grammar school as your first choice (if it is your preferred school). This is because between October and the end of the academic year (July), there is often movement on the waiting list, as some families who are offered places later decide not to accept them due to personal circumstances.

**If your child’s score is significantly higher** than the previous year’s lowest score allocated a place, there is no reason they should not be offered a place, and you may consider this a pass without waiting for the official letter in March. However, for most grammar schools in Birmingham, you will still need to consider whether you fall within their catchment areas.

**(see page 10)**

## **Is my child eligible for Pupil Premium?**

Grammar schools now reserve a certain number of seats for children who are eligible for pupil premium. Pupil Premium is additional funding paid to schools by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children.

For example, Queen Mary's Grammar Schools currently reserve 30 out of 180 seats for pupil premium students.

**If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, then you MUST mention this on your exam application in April / May of Year 5.**

For children who are Pupil Premium, the “lowest scores offered a place / Cut off score” is lower than non-pupil premium – so this lowers the score your child will need to achieve to gain entry into the grammar schools. (See the green section on page 7)

**All children who currently qualify for free school meals based on their household circumstances are entitled to pupil premium. This applies if you receive any of the following benefits:**

- Universal credit (provided you have a net income of £7400 or less)
- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less.

**If you are unsure whether your child is eligible for pupil premium, please check with your child's primary school to confirm – before you fill out the exam application form in April / May of Year 5.**

## List of Grammar Schools and Catchment Areas

Schools **with** a catchment area will first **prioritise** the students who live in their catchment area, you can still apply to these schools, but you will not have priority.

### Walsall, Wolverhampton, Shropshire and Warwickshire

There is currently **no catchment area** for any of these five schools.

#### Boys

**Walsall** – Queen Mary’s Grammar School

**Shropshire** – Adams Grammar School (25 miles from Walsall)

#### Girls

**Walsall** – Queen Mary’s High School

**Wolverhampton** – Wolverhampton Girls High School (10 miles from Walsall)

**Shropshire** – Newport Girls High School (25 miles from Walsall)

### Birmingham

**All the King Edward Schools consider catchment areas. See page 11.**

#### Boys

King Edward VI Aston School (**Catchment area**)

Bishop Vesey’s Grammar School for Boys (**No Catchment area**)

King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys (**Catchment area**)

King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys (**Catchment area**)

#### Girls

Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls (**No Catchment area**)

King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls (**Catchment area**)

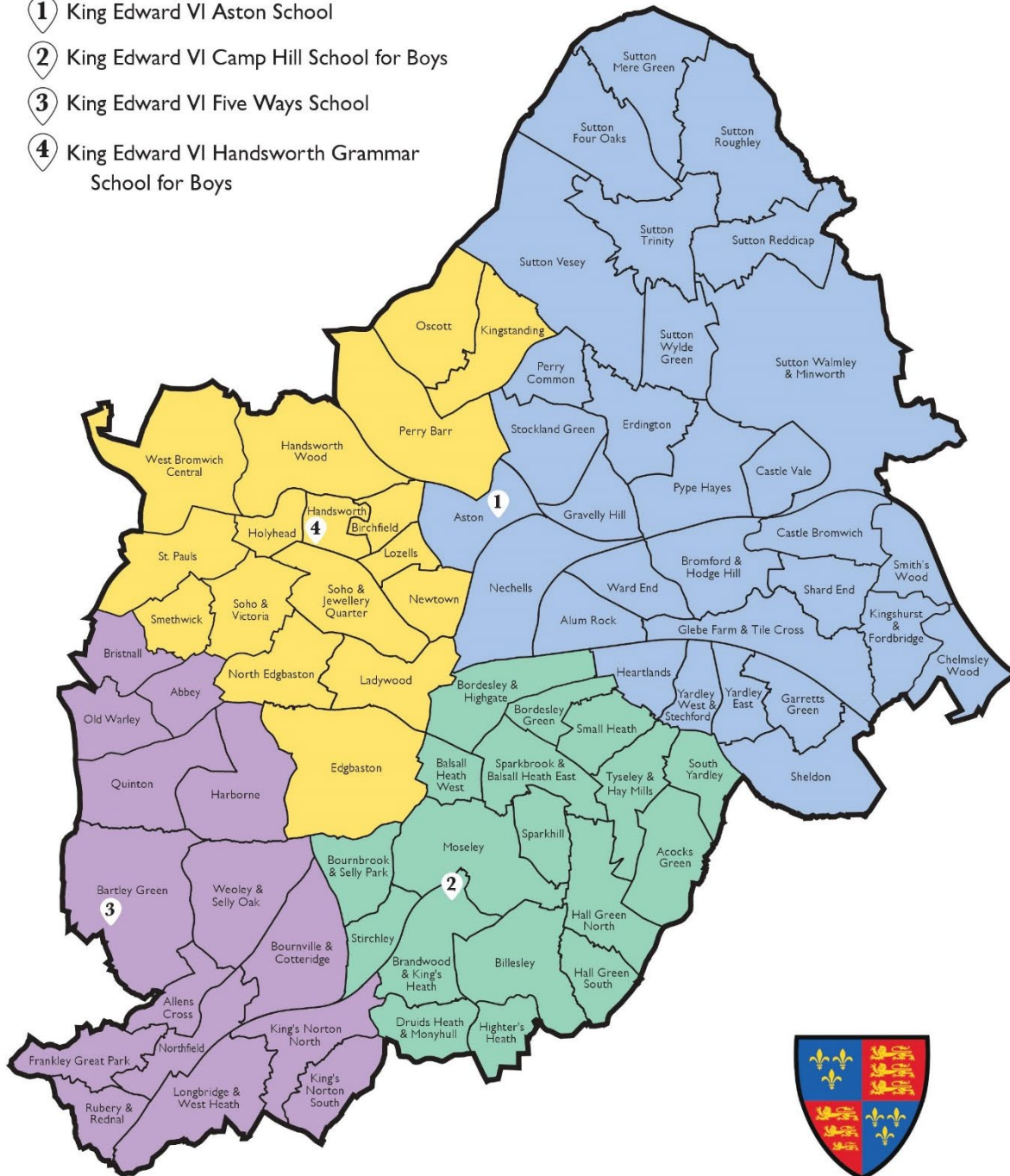
King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls (**Catchment area**)

#### Mixed Boys and Girls

King Edward VI Five Ways School (**Catchment area**)

## *King Edward VI Grammar School Catchment Areas - Boys*

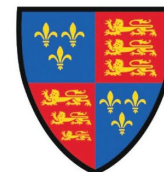
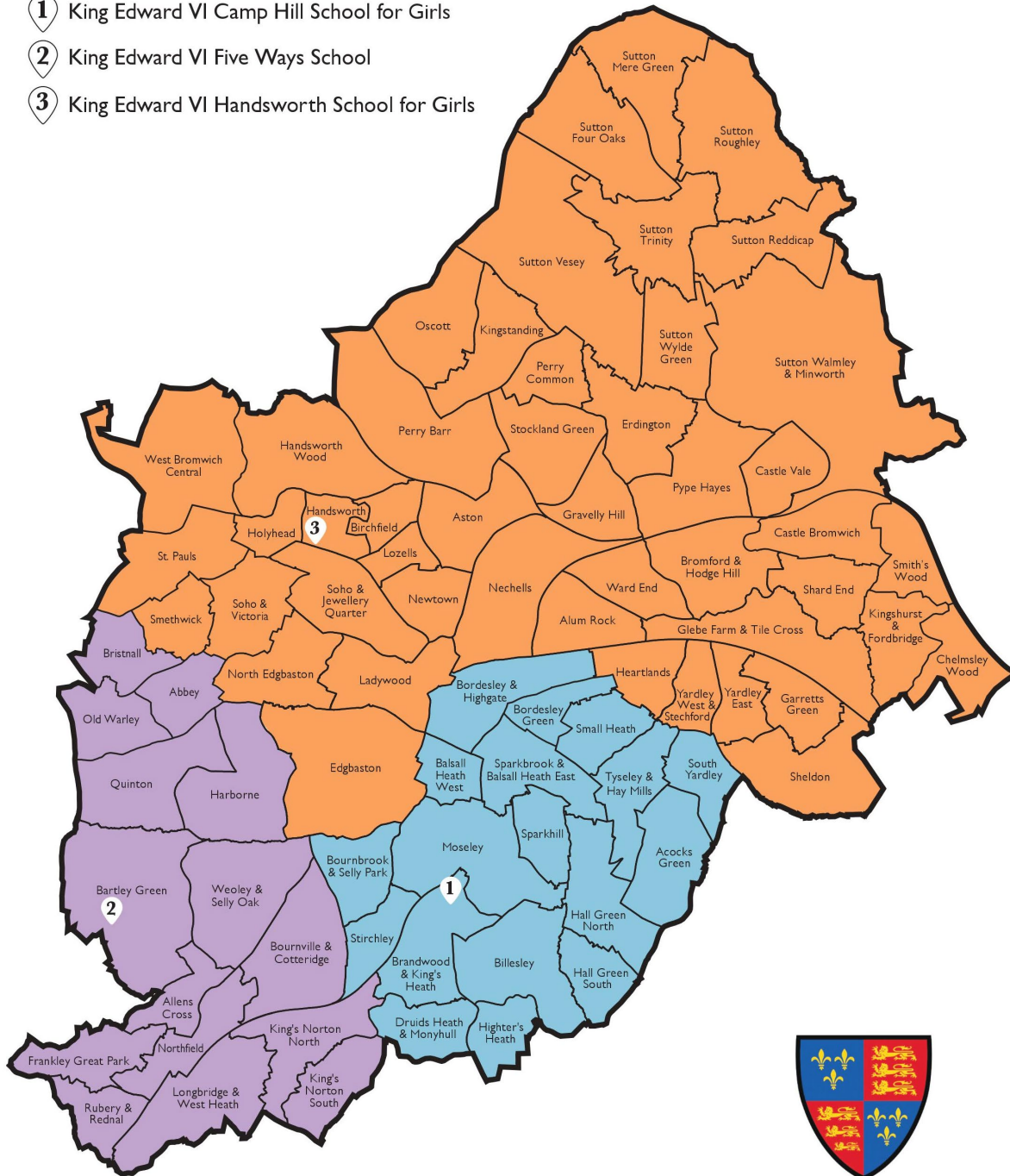
- ① King Edward VI Aston School
- ② King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys
- ③ King Edward VI Five Ways School
- ④ King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys



**KING EDWARD VI  
ACADEMY TRUST  
BIRMINGHAM**

## *King Edward VI Grammar School Catchment Areas - Girls*

- ① King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls
- ② King Edward VI Five Ways School
- ③ King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls



**KING EDWARD VI  
ACADEMY TRUST  
BIRMINGHAM**



## **BROAD HORIZON** —TUITION CENTRE—

**This information is correct as of January 2026.**

The grammar school consortiums may change and update their policies at any time, please check with your tuition centre or the school in question for up-to-date information on each of the schools.

***If you have any further questions,  
please do not hesitate to contact us.***