



## **AHS Open Event FAQs**

### **How do I get a place at AHS?**

Please see our Admissions Policy [here](#)

Girls are eligible to be considered for admission to Aylesbury High School in Year 7 if they meet the required qualifying score of 121 in the Buckinghamshire Secondary Transfer Test (STT) or have been deemed qualified by a Selection Review Panel (or, in exceptional circumstances, an Admissions Appeal).

Children sit two test papers in the Autumn of the year prior to proposed admission. Children sit both papers on the same day. Each test paper is approximately 60 minutes in length including an introduction and practice examples. The STT assesses verbal, non-verbal and mathematical skills. The child's scores in each of the three skills areas are age-standardised to ensure children are placed on an equal footing regardless of when their birthday falls in the year. The three age-standardised scores are then added together to give the child's Secondary Transfer Test Score (STTS). Children need an STTS of 121 or more in order to automatically qualify for a grammar school place.

### **How many students do you take in Year 7?**

Our planned admissions number is 180. Students are split into 6 forms of 30.

### **How do you decide which 180 students get places in Year 7?**

Our over subscription criteria are applied in this order:

1. Looked after girls and previously looked after girls.
2. Girls who qualify for Free School Meals and live in the catchment area of the school.
3. For the main point of admission, sisters of girls who will be on the roll of Aylesbury High School at the date of the applicant's entry to Year 7 in September.
4. For the main point of admission, sisters of boys who will be on the roll of Aylesbury Grammar School at the date of the applicant's entry to Year 7 in September.
5. Sisters of girls who have previously been on the roll of Aylesbury High School.
6. Girls living in the catchment area of the school as at and continuously from 31 October of the year preceding entry to Year 7 in September.

### **What is the school's catchment area?**

[This map](#) shows our catchment area

### **Do you take students from out of catchment?**

Once the above rules have been applied, then any further places will be offered in distance order, measuring from the geocoded point of the family's normal home address to the geocoded point of the nearest of the school's three main entrances, using the Local Authority's measurements, offering the closest first.

### **Can I appeal if I don't achieve 121 in the test?**

Parents of any child who does not achieve the qualifying score of 121 may apply for a Selection Review if they believe that their child would have met the qualifying score but for particular circumstances regarding their participation in the selection testing process. The Selection Review will be carried out by a panel comprising of serving Secondary and Primary Headteachers, supported by a clerk. The Panel will consider each written application received and, where appropriate, will obtain advice from an Educational Psychologist prior to making a decision. The Selection Review process will take place before places are allocated and children who are deemed qualified by the panel will be eligible for admission to any of the Buckinghamshire grammar schools.

### **What are the deadlines for applying?**

See the [Buckinghamshire Council Timeline](#) for applying to secondary school for entry in September 2021.

All students who attend a Buckinghamshire primary school will be automatically entered to take the Secondary Transfer Test. If you attend independent schools in Buckinghamshire and non-Buckinghamshire Primary schools, an application for testing should be made to Buckinghamshire Council, the Test Administrator for all the Buckinghamshire Grammar Schools, by 25 June. In addition, all applicants must notify their home Local Authority of their preference for the school prior to the closing date of 31 October.

### **When will I hear if I have a place?**

You will hear which school you have been allocated on National Offer Day on 1 March.

### **What can I do if I have qualified, but don't get a place?**

After places have been allocated, parents will be entitled to make representations to an Independent Appeal Panel if their child has been refused admission because the school is full. Aylesbury High School has contracted Buckinghamshire Council to manage appeals on the school's behalf.

### **How do you help students settle in to Year 7?**

- We contact every primary school to find out about the students who will be joining us and we visit anyone they feel would benefit from a visit.
- We send home [lots of information](#) about the school and hold an information evening in May.
- In July, Year 6 students join us for two transition days, where they meet their form tutor, their classmates and take part in some fun icebreaker activities.
- In September, our new Year 7 students have a staggered start so they can get used to the school.
- Our dedicated Head of Year 7, Miss Quesne and our experienced team of Year 7 tutors offer excellent support, which is enhanced by support from dedicated Year 9 buddies for each Year 7 form. Our [Learning For Life programme](#) focuses on topics such as making friends, finding out who is who around the school and how to get organised for secondary school.

### **What kind of pastoral care do you offer?**

As well as Miss Quesne, our Head of Year 7 and our experienced team of Year 7 tutors, we have an Assistant Headteacher who oversees pastoral care in KS3, a dedicated Mental Health and Student Welfare Lead, and our school matron all of whom are here to offer pastoral care and to help students find support from external agencies if needed. Please see information about [student welfare here](#) and our student support page [here](#).

### **What sorts of clubs do you offer?**

Please see [here](#) for a taster of our clubs and activities.

### **What opportunities are there to go on trips?**

There is some information [here](#)

### **What is a typical timetable for a Year 7?**

You can find information on this in our new student guide [here](#).

You may also find it useful to read our Parent Guide for new students [here](#)

### **How much homework would a Year 7 get?**

We have a homework timetable, so the maximum they would get is two 30 minute pieces each day.

### **What are the options at GCSE?**

Please see our GCSE options information [here](#).

### **What are the options at A Level?**

Please see our A Level options information [here](#).

### **Useful links:**

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/education/school-admissions/moving-up-to-secondary-school/national-offer-day/>

If you still have a question after reading the above information, [please fill in this form](#) and we will get back to you with an answer!