

TYPES OF APPEALS

All children in Bucks County sit the 11+ test unless they opt out. The qualifying mark is 121. Therefore, children who achieve a score of 121 or above can put a grammar school on their preference list when choosing a secondary school.

Children who do not achieve the qualifying score can elect to have their score reviewed by a panel of three Headteachers (Selection Review). If they are successful they will be treated as if they passed the 11+ and can put a grammar school on their preference list.

Children who do not achieve the qualifying score and are unsuccessful at Selection Review (if applicable) cannot put a grammar school down on their preference list but can appeal to a grammar school.

Out of county children must apply to sit the 11+ and, if successful, can put a Bucks county grammar school on their preference list and will be allocated a place subject to the school's admission policy.

All children receive notice of their secondary school allocation on National Offer Day.

All children have a right to appeal the decision to allocate a particular school before an Independent Appeal Panel ("IAP").

Below are the different types of appeal:

Failed Selection Review	A child, having failed the 11+ and failed Selection Review, must first establish that there is no evidence that the Selection Review process was fair, consistent and objective ("FCO") before establishing academic ability and prejudice*.
Failed 11+	A child, having failed the 11+ can proceed to an appeal without going through the Selection Review process. In these cases, the child must establish that he/she would have passed the 11+ but for any

	mitigating circumstances, such as illness, and prejudice.
Successful 11+ in catchment	A child who was not offered his/her preferred or catchment school must establish prejudice.
Successful 11+ out of catchment	A child who was not offered his/her preferred school because he/she does not live in the school's catchment area must establish prejudice.

- * The appellant must establish that the prejudice suffered by the school in admitting an extra child is outweighed by the prejudice suffered by the child in not being admitted to a particular school. Examples could be friendship groups, choice of subjects, medical/social and pastoral reasons.

Appeals follow the format set out below:

1. The school's representative presents the school's case followed by any questions. The school's case will include details of its admissions policy, class sizes, number of pupils on roll, classroom sizes and catchment area.
2. The appellant presents his/her case followed by any questions. The appellant's case will first present information regarding the Selection Review process and whether there is evidence that it was not FCO (if applicable), followed by information regarding the appellants eligibility for a grammar school, followed by information regarding the prejudice the appellant would suffer as a result of not being offered a place.
3. Summing up.

The school's representative and the appellant must leave the room at the end of the appeal to allow the IAP to deliberate. The IAP notify the clerk of their decision and the clerk informs the appellant of their decision in writing within 5 school days of the last appeal hearing.