



Chelmsford County High School for Girls



Admission to Year 7 September 2025 Frequently Asked Questions regarding Admission Test Results

How many candidates sat the entrance test for CCHS for entry in September 2025?

A total of 1,224 candidates sat the entrance test.

How many candidates who took the test received an eligible score?

419 candidates achieved the eligible score.

Why was my daughter's Creative Writing paper not marked?

The English and Mathematics elements are marked by computer and age-standardised. The CCHS Admissions Office will determine, by reference to performance in the tests, an appropriate eligible score. All students with an eligible score from those two elements will have their creative writing element assessed.

We are moving within the priority area prior to the 31st October 2024. Will my daughter's results category change?

To be considered for the 12.5 mile priority area, the applicant must be living within the priority area (at their permanent home address) by 31st October 2024, which is the deadline for formal applications to the Local Authority. Change of address after 31st October 2024 **will not** be considered.

The Admissions Office must carry out thorough checks to ensure that the address provided is your permanent home address to adhere to our Admissions Policy. The following proof of residency documents will be required:

- Driving Licence
- Council Tax bill
- Electricity bill
- One other bill (preferable water)
- **A letter from your daughter's primary school confirming the change of address and the date of the move.**

As per our Admissions Policy, the School reserves the right to undertake additional checking measures, including home visits.

Only if the Admissions Office are satisfied with the evidence obtained, will your daughter's results category be looked at. **Please note that this will be done after 31st October 2024.**

Please note that because of this, parents will not receive the outcome by the deadline for the submission of the Common Application Form (CAF), which is the 31st of October. This will mean that parents will have to submit their secondary school choices to their local education authority without knowing the outcome. However, the Local Authority does allow for up to six choices of secondary school on their CAF meaning that parents should feel confident about listing one or more grammar schools onto their child's CAF, even though they will not know the outcome. Parents will also be able to use any additional choices on their CAF for other secondary schools.

Please remember that the admission process is operated on equal preference. If you place one or more grammar schools at the top of your choices and your child is unsuccessful in gaining a place, then your next preference is treated as if it was your first choice. This means you cannot be disadvantaged by placing grammar schools at the top of your choices even if you later find out that your child did not reach the qualifying standard.

Please can you advise where my daughter is positioned in the ranking? This will help me decide whether to include CCHS as a preference on the CAF.

The School does not know at this stage who has formally applied to CCHS. Therefore, it is not possible for CCHS to give advice in whether your daughter will be offered a place based on her score following this year's Entrance Test.

The purpose of releasing the results before the Common Application Form (CAF) deadline is to provide parents with information to assist when deciding whether to include Chelmsford County High School for Girls as one of the schools listed on the Common Application Form (CAF) to the local authority.

We recommend parents list schools in the order they would like their daughter to attend, rather than trying to predict where she may be offered a place based on exam results. If you want your daughter to come to this school above any other school, you should put Chelmsford County High School for Girls as your first preference. If the first preference cannot be met, your 2nd, 3rd choice etc. will be considered in accordance with each school's admissions criteria.

Why is the eligible score different for candidates who live within the priority area?

We had a large number of 'beyond priority area' applicants sit the test this year. Only 5.3% of applicants who sat the test would be successful in gaining a place due to our oversubscription criteria. As per our Admissions Policy, up to 36 girls will be offered a place.

After looking at all the scores from the 'beyond priority area' candidates, a pass mark of 112 or above was agreed for **both** English and Maths and only those papers were put forward for marking.

What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium are those pupils who have received funding for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years or who are currently eligible for free school meals.

(This does not include the national free school meal in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as this is available to all children regardless of household income).

What is Service Premium?

The service premium is designed to support children with parents serving in the regular British armed forces. Pupils attract the premium if they meet the following criteria:

- a) one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces;
- b) one of their parents served in the regular armed forces in the last 3 years or one of their parents died while serving in the armed forces
- c) the pupil is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS)

What is my daughter's raw score for each test?

CCHS considers this information to be commercially sensitive under exemption 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which states that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person.

Can I see my daughter's test papers?

It is not possible to see a candidates test papers as they are commercially sensitive and the property of FSCE Ltd.

Can papers be remarked?

All the entrance tests are double scanned and checked using different optical mark readers and different staff. The process is reliable and trustworthy and as a result re-marks would be unnecessary. The likelihood of any mistake being made in recording the correct test responses from the multiple choice answer sheet is negligible.

Please note that Creative Writing is not eligible for a re-mark. This is because they have already been manually judged by a number of individual members of staff from CCHS who are aware of the standard required for entry.

How is the Creative Writing marked?

By using Comparative Judgement which is a process where judges compare two responses and decide which is better. The judgement they make is a holistic one about the overall quality of the writing. Each teacher simply judges which response he or she thinks best addresses the question. Once enough teachers have judged enough pieces of work, it is possible to see where an individual candidate's work fits into the broader distribution of achievement.

Can I appeal?

You cannot appeal about your daughter's test mark. Your offer letter from your Local Authority on Monday 3rd March 2025 will contain details of how to appeal if you have not been offered a place at your preferred school.

I have completed my CAF already but now wish to change my choices.

Please contact your Local Authority with this query.

The Local Authority are saying that we need to complete a SIF, how do we do this?

There is no requirement for you to complete a SIF - this is done when you registered your daughter to sit the CCHS Entrance Test.

When will I know if I have been offered a place at CCHS?

National Offer Day is Monday 3rd March 2025.