

Working Together for Wirral's Children

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018



TIMETABLE

31st MAY

Deadline for 11+ assessment requests

SEPTEMBER

On-line application system goes live

Preference forms and booklets available

11th SEPTEMBER

Upton Hall test

18th SEPTEMBER

11+ assessments

22nd SEPTEMBER

St Anselms test

OCTOBER

Independent Assessment Board

21 OCTOBER

Results to parents by this date

31 OCTOBER

Deadline for preference forms

25 NOVEMBER

Birkenhead High School Academy test

1 MARCH

ALLOCATION DAY

Applying on-line

- www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions from 1st September

Why apply on-line?

- It is quick, easy and secure.
- Apply from home 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (from 1st September).
- You can apply from a computer, smartphone or tablet with internet access.
- No risk your application will be lost in the post.
- You receive an email confirming that your application has been submitted and received.
- The system has a series of security features that will prevent others from seeing your information.
- **You receive your offer by e-mail on allocation day.**

Will secondary schools know what rank I have put them down?

NO. Schools are not sent the actual preference forms.

They are sent:

Child's name, address, date of birth, current school, siblings and faith information (if relevant)

Schools are not told in what order their school has been put down as a preference.

CO-ORDINATION

If you live in Wirral but want a school place in another local authority (LA), you must apply through Wirral as your home LA (either on-line or paper).

Parents who don't live in Wirral, but want to apply for a Wirral school, must apply through their home LA.

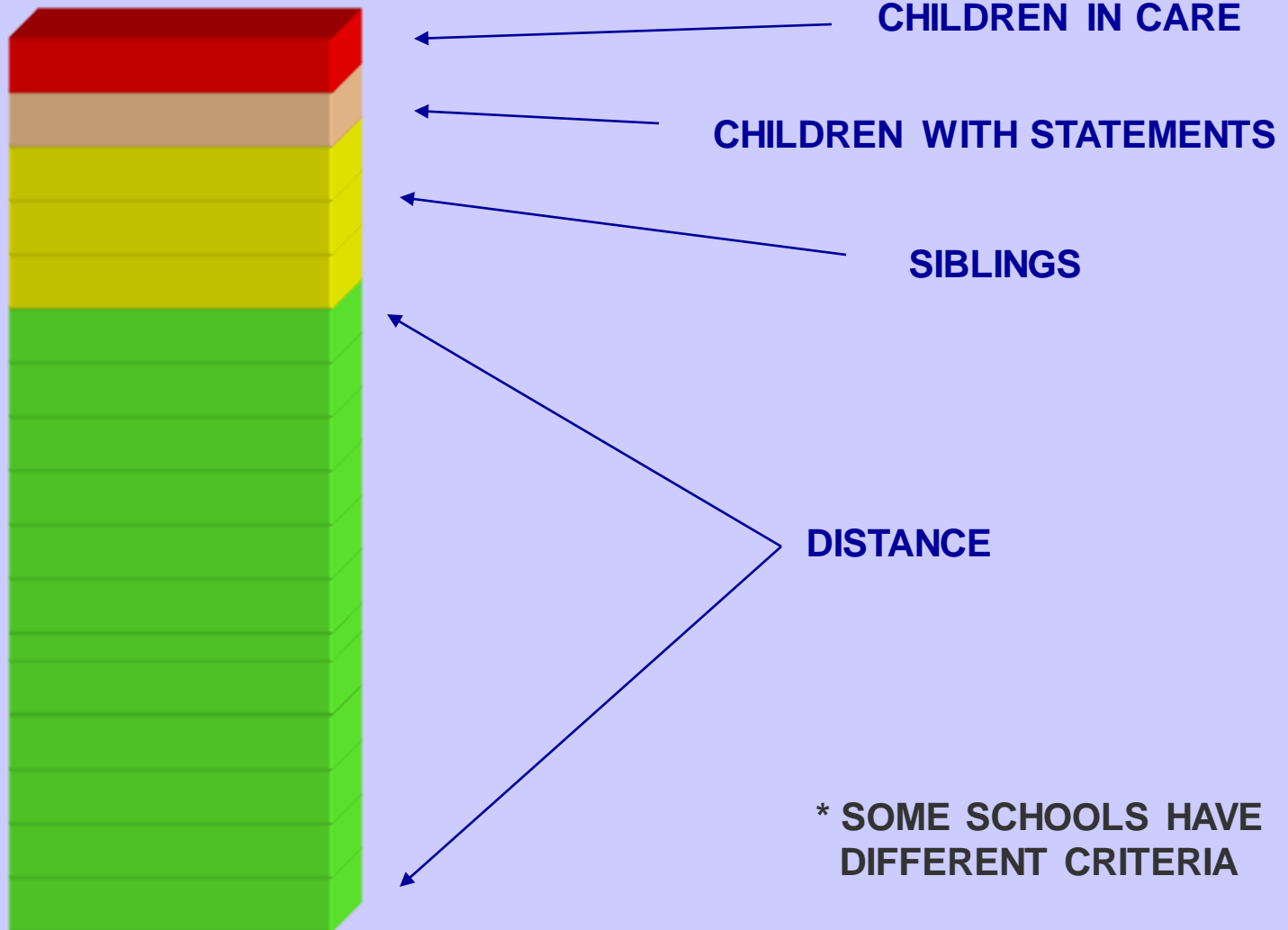
There will be a single offer of a secondary school place.

Parents will be informed of the outcome of their applications by their home LA, not by the LA where the school is located.

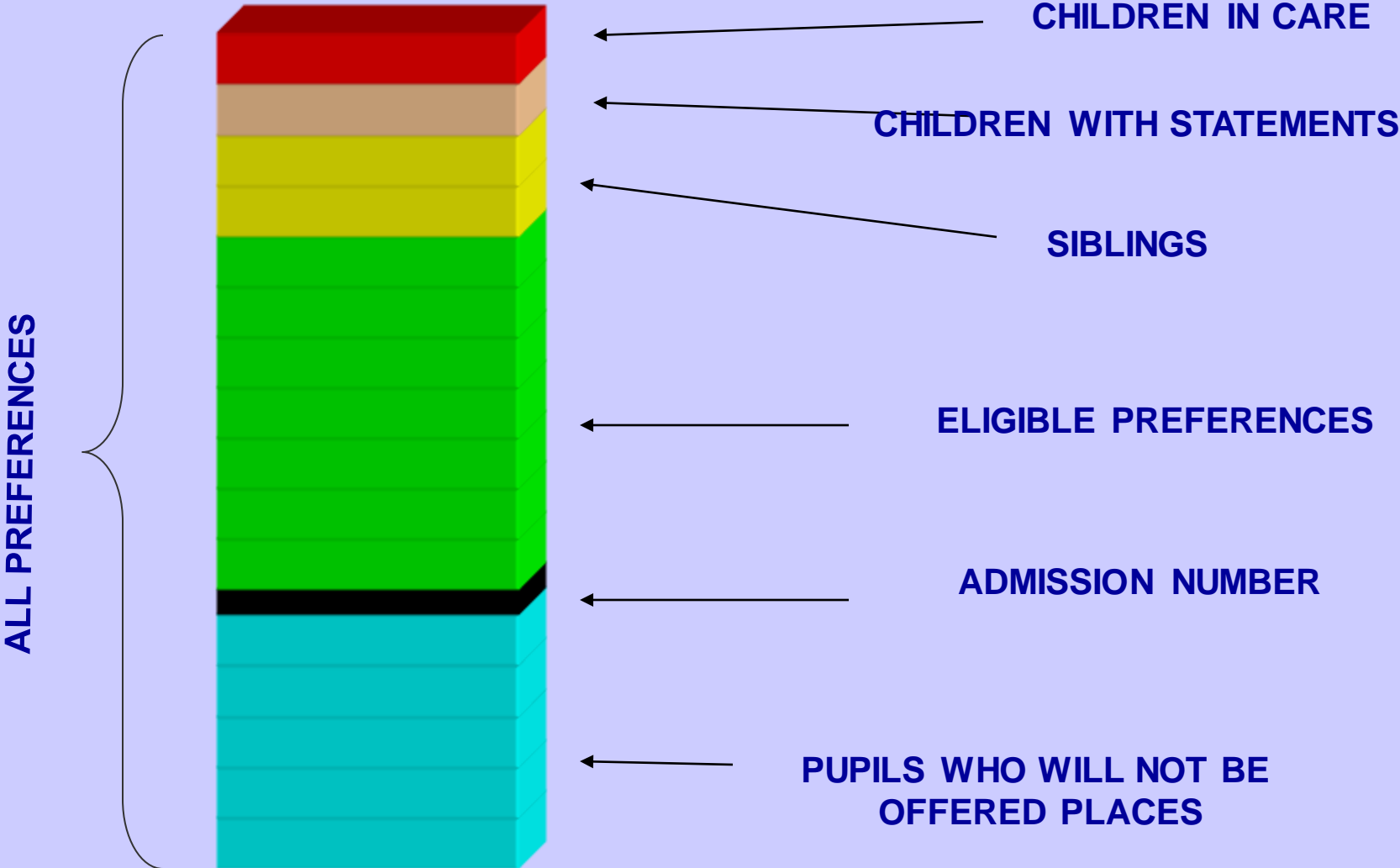
WHAT HAPPENS TO MY PREFERENCES?

THE LA, OR THE SCHOOLS*, DRAW UP A “STACK” OF APPLICANTS PUTTING THEM IN ORDER USING THE OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA FOR THE SCHOOL

- CHILDREN IN CARE, STATEMENTED CHILDREN, SIBLINGS AND DISTANCE

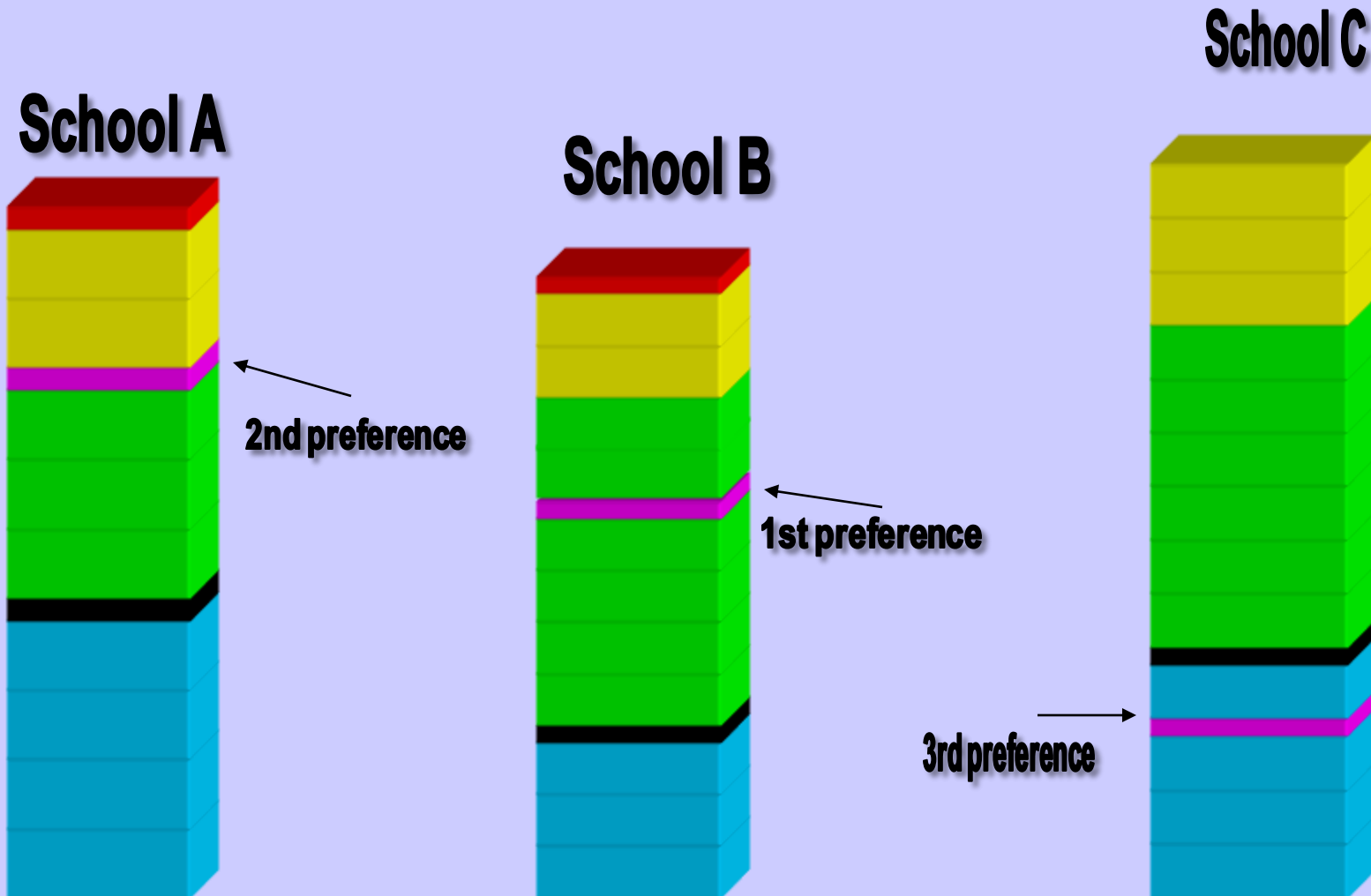


THE ADMISSION NUMBER IS APPLIED TO DETERMINE WHO IS OFFERED A PLACE



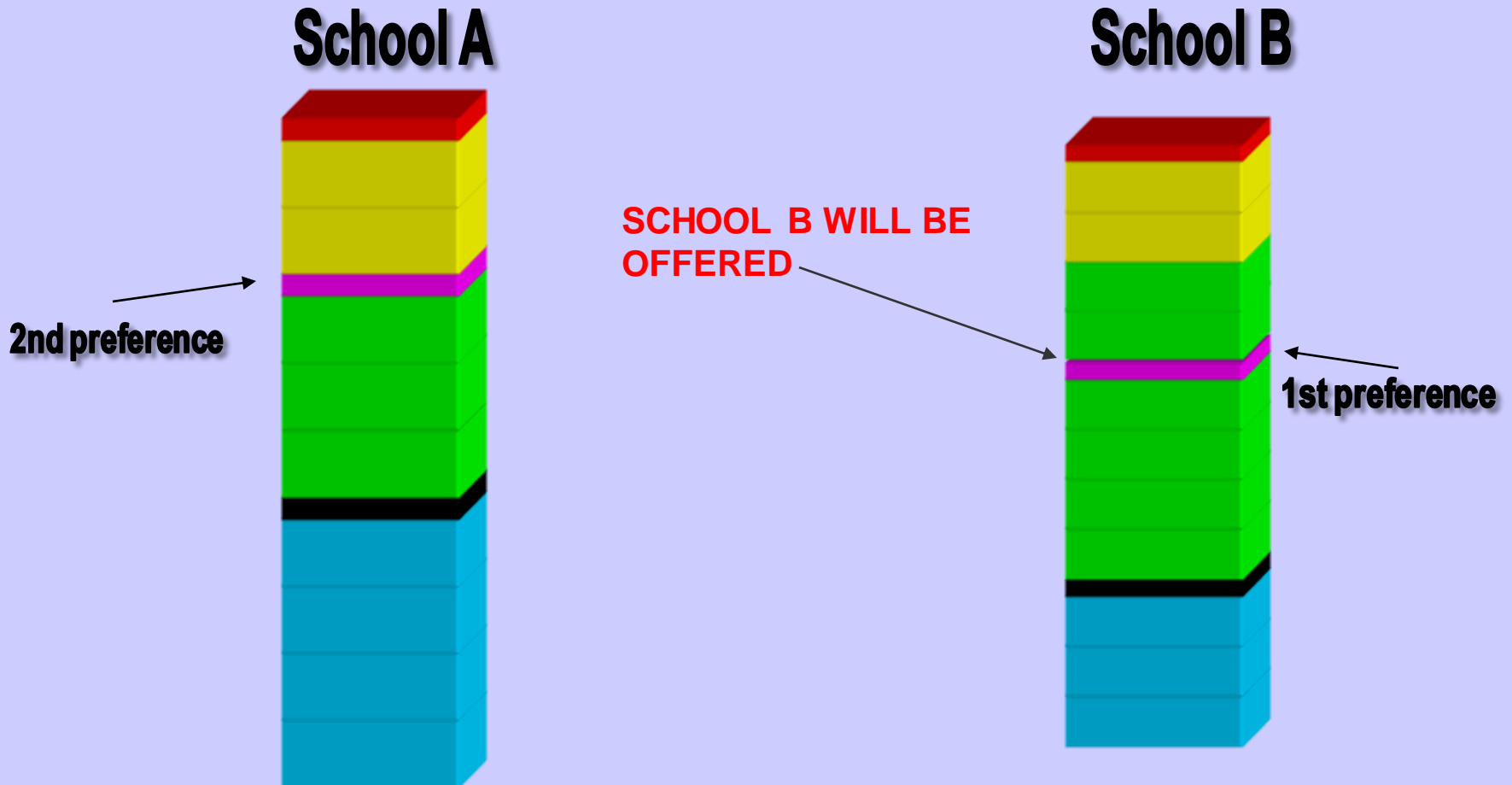
WHAT DOES EQUAL PREFERENCES MEAN?

THIS MEANS THAT WE GIVE EQUAL VALUE TO ALL PREFERENCES WHEN DRAWING UP THE STACKS AND ONLY LATER ON WILL THE ORDER OF YOUR PREFERENCES BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.



IS THE ORDER OF MY PREFERENCES IMPORTANT?

YES IT IS, BECAUSE IF WE CAN OFFER YOUR CHILD A PLACE AT MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL, THEN WE WILL ALLOCATE A PLACE AT THE SCHOOL YOU NAME AS THE HIGHEST PREFERENCE.



National Allocation Day is 1st March 2018

- **On-line applicants will be sent an e-mail from the LA on this day.**
- **Paper applicants will be posted an offer letter from the LA on this day (2nd class post only).**
- **The offer will come from the home LA and will be the highest preference that can be allocated.**
- **Each child will only get one offer of a place.**
- **After 1st March parents can appeal in writing to an independent panel for a place at another school.**

For more information

- Go online to

www.wirral.gov.uk/schooladmissions

- Take advantage of the Open Days and Evenings

11+ tests

- The new CEM (Durham University) tests aim to enable children to demonstrate their potential without excessive preparation.
- They are 'tutor resistant' rather than 'tutor proof'.
- Tests are based on the Year 5 National Curriculum.
- Questions are not designed to trick the children – there is no formulaic way of answering the questions.

11+ tests

- New content each year – any leaked content is withdrawn.
- Core skills are tested – reading for meaning, interpretation and comprehension of texts, understanding of vocabulary.
- Maths questions test a range of skills, testing children's ability to apply knowledge to solve problems (not a memory test).
- Advice from CEM: encourage the children to do their homework, discuss errors with them, encourage independent work, encourage them to read widely and discuss words they don't understand.

11+ tests

- Tests taken on the same day with a short break between.
- Two multiple choice tests of 45-50 minutes each.
- Mixture of verbal, non-verbal and maths questions on both tests. (<http://www.greasby-junior.wirral.sch.uk>)
- Sections are timed using an audio CD.
- Pencil and eraser only equipment needed.

11+ tests

- Exam conditions apply – no mobile phones or other electronic devices allowed.
- Tests are marked centrally by an independent body, not by the test venue.
- Parents cannot see test papers or answer sheets.
- The ‘pass’ mark is 236 (standardised by age).
- If a child misses the test they have to take it at a grammar school.

11+ tests and applying for a place

- Selective test results are sent to parents by 21st October.
- **All parents must submit a preference application by 31st October to be on-time.**
- If their child has **not reached the standard**, parents should not give the grammar school as a preference as it will be withdrawn.

11+ tests and applying for a place

- Parents of **children who miss the test date** must still apply by 31st October – if they do not reach the standard then the highest non-grammar preference becomes the highest preference.
- Parents of children who have not reached the standard can submit a written appeal after 1st March if they wish to do so (I will help you with this).