

Warwickshire County Council – Results of the 11+ Selective Education Survey

Background

A short survey was recently carried out in order to try and establish why those parents, whose home address falls within one of the priority areas for selective schools, did not apply for a place at a selective school. The survey was carried out at the request of the Admissions Forum.

Survey forms were sent out to all parents living within the priority areas of selective schools who did not apply for a selective place for entry in September 2010 and 2011. A total of 5,300 survey forms were sent out along with freepost envelopes to return the survey.

Parents were asked to indicate why they did not enter their child to sit the test for entry to selective schools. Five possible reasons were provided, with parents free to select more than one reason. Parents were also given the opportunity to provide 'other information'

A total of 2583 survey forms were returned and a brief summary of the results is set out below.

Results

| Reason | No. of responses |
|---|------------------|
| Prefer child attends the local school | 982 |
| Do not agree with the selective system | 260 |
| Did not know child could sit test to enter a selective school | 417 |
| Unlikely that child is of grammar school ability | 891 |
| Child did not want to take the test | 821 |
| Other (please provide details) | 938 |

Twenty five parents specifically asked if it would still be possible for their child to sit the test for selective schools. Information packs were subsequently sent out and five children were then tested.

Next steps

It is likely that other useful data may be contained within the 'Other' category of responses. However, analysing such data is very time consuming, but further analysis can be carried out if required. Responses could also be analysed by postcode if requested by the forum.