



When will the Fair Banding Policy be implemented?

The new policy will be introduced for the 2024/25 school year. Please note that your child will need to sit an assessment in October 2023 as part of the admission process for a year 7 place in September 2024.

What will my child be asked to do as part of the assessment?

The assessment is not something your child can revise for and is not subject specific. The assessment is only to establish which ability band your child falls into and this information is used as part of the admission process. The assessment is quite informal and nothing to worry about. It is a 45-minute, multiple choice question paper that is designed to be accessible to all children, regardless of their home language. Example tests and guidance can be found on the school website.

What do you do with the information from the assessments - do you use it to create sets?

The results are only used as part of the admission process. They don't inform how a child's life will be shaped at Moor Park High School and Sixth Form.

Is it a pass or fail assessment?

Please be reassured, it is not a pass or fail assessment. We want to take children from across the ability spectrum.

How are places allocated after the assessment?

The assessment will be marked by an external company and children will be placed in an ability band based on their results. The oversubscription policy will then be applied to each band.

Lancashire County Council will inform parents whether their child has been allocated a place on school offer day.

What happens if my child doesn't sit the assessment?

If all places have been allocated to children who have sat the assessment, then we will be unable to allocate your child a place.

What happens if an ability band is oversubscribed?

If a band is oversubscribed, the oversubscription criteria within our Admission Policy will apply. You can find our Admission Policy on our website.

My child has a sibling already at the school. Will my child still be required to complete the assessment?

Yes - ALL children will need to complete the assessment. If all the school places have been allocated to children who sat the assessment, there will be no places available to offer to children who did not sit the assessment, including those who have siblings at the school. If there are still places available, then these will be allocated to children who did not sit the assessment using the School's oversubscription criteria.

We live very close to the school. Does my child need to complete the assessment?

Yes - ALL children will need to complete the assessment. If all the school places have been allocated to children who sat the assessment, there will be no places available to offer to children who did not sit the assessment, including those who live very close to school. If there are still places available, then these will be allocated to children who did not sit the assessment using the School's oversubscription criteria.

Families in my local area say when they have applied for a place at Moor Park High School and Sixth Form they have been unsuccessful as they live too far away. Is it worth applying and sitting the assessment if we live outside the 'catchment area'?

Yes - This new admission policy means that school places will be allocated differently to a 'traditional' school admission policy. If your child sits the assessment and you name Moor Park High School and Sixth Form as one of your school preferences on the Local Authority application form, your application will be considered **before** the applications of those who have not sat the assessment, even if they have siblings attending the school or live close by.

What happens if my child has an EHCP or is a looked after child?

Children who are a looked after child, or who have an Education, Health and Care Plan where Moor Park High School and Sixth Form is the named school, will not be required to follow the Fair Banding process in order to be offered a place and are given priority. However, they will still need to complete a Fair Banding assessment in order to be allocated to an ability band.

Will my child be more likely to get into the school if they do well in the assessment?

No - Children will be allocated to an ability band dependant of their assessment result.

When is the Fair Banding assessment and how do I register?

All children looking for a place in year 7 will need to complete the Fair Banding assessment in October 2023 whilst they are in year 6. This is because it forms part of the admission process for September 2024. After October 2023 there will no longer be an opportunity to sit the assessment so make sure you sign up after attending our September 2023 Open Evening.

The assessment will take place at Moor Park High School and Sixth Form and the dates for the assessment will be on our school website, along with a booking form that parents will need to complete. Your child will need to attend one of the short, 45-minute assessments.

My child is worried about doing an assessment - how will you support them?

We know that some children are anxious about assessments, so we'll make sure it's an incredibly positive experience.

What do I need to do next to secure a place for my child at Moor Park High School and Sixth Form?

Attend our Open Evening in September 2023 so you can find out more about Moor Park High School and Sixth Form.

Complete your admission application on the Lancashire County Council common application form and choose Moor Park High School and Sixth Form as one of your school preferences.

Go on our website and sign up to one of the assessment sessions. **Please note** that if your child does not sit the assessment before the end of October 2023, there will not be another opportunity to do so.

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What is Fair Banding and why are we using it at Moor Park High School?

Fair Banding is the use of a short assessment which allocates children to an ability band according to their results. There are 5 ability bands, and this means we can take a range of children from different abilities. It's a common system used around the country, particularly in London, and is a fair way to ensure we remain truly comprehensive and have a broad intake of abilities entering our school.

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You'll be able to find information about banding and our admission policy on our school website.

www.moorpark.mp/fb

However, if you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school through our email or telephone and we'll be more than happy to help.

admin@moorpark.mp
01772 795428

Moor Park High School and Sixth Form

firmly believes in comprehensive education, the opportunity for every child to come to our school, no matter of their background, ability or where they live.



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MOOR PARK HIGH SCHOOL WILL BE OPERATING A

Fair Banding

ADMISSION POLICY FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

What will this mean for you and your child?

