



4<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Thank you for your email requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 with regard to Reading School.

Unfortunately, much of the information you have requested pre-dates any of our historical records, however, I will answer your questions in the order in which you ask:

1. When was the current designated area formulated?  
We are only expected to keep Governors minutes for a retention period of 6 years. However, it is thought that when the school became Grant Maintained it would have set its own over subscription criteria which would have been after the 1988 Education Act. We believe that this would have been in 1991, however, cannot be certain as our records do not go back that far. Prior to 1989 places were allocated to Reading Borough children only but after 1989 this was made illegal by the Greenwich ruling.
2. What the Designated Area was, if any, before this change?  
Please see point 1 above.
3. How far back the tests have consisted of (Mathematics, English and Reasoning)  
This information is not held.
4. How many questions there are in each of the tests (and since what date)?  
The number of questions can vary year on year as the Reading School tests are written by staff in the school. However, assuming you are requesting information on the Year 7 testing, I can confirm that for the past 4 years there have been 50 questions for each paper except in 2012 when there were 40 questions for the Reasoning paper only.
5. When the change to multiple choice was made  
This information is not held.
6. How age weighting is calculated and applied to the raw scores  
The age of the child is taken to the nearest completed month e.g. a child born on 03 March 1998 who takes the test on 01 November 2008 will be 10 years and 7 months. His scores will be standardised by taking into account the scores and ages of all the candidates that took the test on the same day. There is no set table because the candidates are compared with their cohort of children who took the test at that school on that day.
7. When the current method of applying age weighting was introduced  
Age weighting was first introduced in 2007.



8. The last time the tie breaker was used to determine the granting of a place and on that occasion what the raw and weighted scores were.  
The tie break criteria has not been used in at least 13 years which is as far back as we are able to go.
9. Anonymised copies of the full test results for the last three years.  
The public interest test was undertaken regarding this question. Having undertaken this test it was felt that it would not be in the public interest to release this information. The reason for this is that the ranking of the tests is not given out to parents or students as it is the Local Authority that allocate places and rank according to the co-ordinated admissions policy. By releasing this information to you, you have access to information which could be misleading because it is incomplete. This disclosure is also likely to infringe other legislation, i.e. Data Protection Act as parents of applicants would be able to ascertain who their son is by looking at the results and ranking position.

I hope this information proves of value to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr AM Robson  
Headmaster