QEGS, Penrith Admission Appeal FAQs

My child has not been given a place at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, what can I do?
You are entitled to appeal the decision to refuse your child a place at the school.

You will have been refused a place for one of two reasons:

- The school year you have applied for is full
- Your child did not pass our entrance test

How do I make an appeal?
Please see our document Admissions Appeals Procedure

What can I appeal for?
The only thing you are able to appeal for is a place at the school. While the panel can consider a range of factors, they cannot make decisions about our waiting list or any other factors relating to testing or admissions.

What information should I give to the Panel?
It is important that you clearly set out the reasons why you believe your child should have a place at the school. You can make an appeal because you want your child to attend QEGS over any other, but the stronger your reasons, the better chance you have of your appeal being successful. You should focus on what the school can offer that meets your child's needs. This can include what the school can offer that other schools cannot and what the impact will be on your child in not attending the school of your choice. To support your appeal, you could include school reports/assessments and references from your child's current school that show your child is of grammar school ability.

Every school has a Published Admission Number (PAN). The PAN is the maximum number of pupils that they will admit to each year group. You may believe that the school could take additional pupils, and this is something the panel will question the school about as part of the appeal.

You can also appeal if you believe that the admission authority did not apply their admission arrangements properly and if they had applied them properly, they would have offered your child a place at the school. You should explain why you believe this is the case and refer to the part of the admission arrangements that you believe has not been applied properly.

Is there anything that the Panel will not accept?
Yes. Examples of schoolwork your child may have undertaken will not be accepted as the panel will not be able to make a proper judgement about its quality**.** The members would have nothing to measure it against and would not know the depth of the work submitted. Also, they would not know whether the work had been carried out unaided.

The following information is only relevant (and is in addition to the above) if your child has not passed the entrance test

Can I still appeal if my child has not passed the entrance test?
Yes, you can appeal. However, for the panel to be able to consider whether your child should be offered a place at the school (in line with the information in the previous sections of this document), they must be satisfied that:

"that the child did not perform at their best on the day of the entrance test [and] that there is evidence to demonstrate that the child is of the required academic standards, [to be] considered to be of grammar school ability"

3.13 School Admissions appeals code, 2022

It is therefore important that you provide evidence as part of your appeal which demonstrates this: for example, school reports giving Year 5/Year 6 SAT results or a letter of support from their current or previous school clearly indicating why the child is considered of grammar school ability. It is not appropriate to provide evidence of school work.

It is highly unlikely to be sufficient to say they were very close to the pass mark without additional evidence.

If your child has not met the pass mark in the following areas, subject information from the linked National Curriculum areas may be helpful:

Verbal – English, History, Religious, Education
Quantitative – Maths, Science
Non-Verbal (problem solving) – Science, Food, Technology

If the panel do not consider that the child meets the required academic standard to be considered 'of grammar school ability' then they are not able to offer a place, even if there are other compelling arguments.