Detailed Information for 11+ Entrance Exams – To Join Year 7

The vast majority of pupils seeking to join Year 7 at LGS come from local, state primary schools. We have a good understanding of the national curriculum and of the material that these children will have studied. We do assess pupils via examination (see below) but we are looking primarily for academic potential and spark, not for pupils who have been coached and tutored towards exam performance.



The information below describes the kinds of questions that children will be asked in their entrance exams. It is helpful if children are familiar with these types of questions and have done a little exam practice. However, excessive preparation is neither desirable nor an advantage, and we advise parents against this.

Papers are taken in Reasoning (60 minutes), English (60 minutes) and Mathematics (60 minutes). Once these exams are marked, candidates may be called for interview.

Reasoning

This is a computer-based test. The test takes 60 minutes, which includes time to do some practice questions and understand the nature of questions.

Candidates may prepare for the test using this website - https://plus.cem.org/cemselectfam/

Mathematics

The exam consists of an initial short test on basic number work followed by a longer 50-minute paper that requires candidates to solve simple mathematical problems. The first part of this paper is in multiple choice format, while the second part requires candidates to write in their answer. No working will be assessed so candidates are free to use whichever method they feel appropriate. All parts of the exam are done without a calculator.

The content of the tests is intended to reflect the national curriculum used in most schools. However, a few questions covering areas which may not feature in all curricula, such as elementary logic and simple probability, are also included in order to test intuitive understanding. The tests include the following:

- Number: Simple calculations involving whole numbers. Simple numerical calculations involving fractions, decimals and percentages. Number patterns
- Shape and Space: Identification of common 2 and 3 dimensional shapes and recognition of their properties. Use of different units of measurement. Coordinates in 1 quadrant
- Handling Data: Reading from graphs and charts

Candidates who want to prepare for this test can do so using any 11+ mathematics papers. A range are available from Amazon and other bookshops.

English

Candidates sit a one hour on the paper which includes comprehension and a short writing task in relation to the comprehension passage.

A good candidate will display:

- Imagination
- Clear, concise sentence structure
- Accurate punctuation
- Appreciation of paragraphing
- An obvious narrative structure with a clear ending
- Information retrieval skills
- The ability to infer and read between the lines
- Some grasp of 'writer's craft'

Candidates who want to prepare for this test can do so using any 11+ English papers. A range are available from Amazon and other bookshops. The Study Skills Survival Guide produced by our English Department lays out the expectations that we have of our pupils and may be of interest to pupils considering joining us in Year 7.

Interview

Once the exams are marked, we will interview some candidates. This may be for one of several reasons:

- Candidates who score highly and are under consideration for a scholarship.
- Candidates who have achieved close to our borderline for entry, so that we can gain further information to help make the best decision about their admission.
- Candidates whose parents have applied for bursary assistance.