

The details provided relate specifically to our main Assessment Day in January. While we're unable to fully replicate this experience for candidates attending assessments at other times, we want to reassure you that every child will still receive a thorough and holistic assessment.

Our commitment to understanding and supporting each individual remains the same, regardless of the assessment date.

Introduction

We assess pupils via examination as well as a holistic assessment (see below). 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.

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 paper will take one hour and will be completed without a calculator. Pupils may take these exams at different times during the year prior to entering the school, so material in the exam will be based on the material an able pupil should have covered in the previous year. Thus, the 13+ exam will consist of questions based on Year 7 work.

Different schools may approach the topics within mathematics in different orders and so, to give an idea of what is expected, a brief outline of the content of each paper is listed below together with a list of what pupils at Leicester Grammar School would cover. Any pupil who is successful in the exam and who will be joining the school at the start of a particular year would be well advised to have an understanding of most of the areas covered in the preceding years.

- **Arithmetic:** Four rules of arithmetic on whole numbers and decimals. Simple calculations involving negative numbers. Simple percentage and ratio calculations. Number sequences
- **Algebra:** Solution of simple linear equations. Substitution into formulae. Straight line graphs
- **Shape and Space:** Angle properties of intersecting lines. Symmetry. Volumes of cuboids. Areas of rectangles and triangles. Identification of 3D solids and their nets.

- **Handling Data:** Finding the mean and range of a set of values. Simple probability. Interpretation of bar charts and pie charts.

Candidates may benefit from exam practice, using any 13+ mathematics papers. A range are available from Amazon and other bookshops.

English

The examinations will consist of a 90-minute paper in two sections; one a comprehension, the other an extension of the comprehension topic into either a discursive or a creative piece of writing. In the comprehension section exercise we are looking for the ability to employ deduction and inference, skills of information selection and application and the clear and concise use of English. In the second section we expect a carefully structured, accurately punctuated, essay which demonstrates both persuasive and imaginative communication.

Please note that:

- Questions will have the marks written beside them. Candidates should plan their answers and time accordingly.
- Spelling, grammar and punctuation will be taken into account, as will the legibility of handwriting.
- Where a longer response to a question is required candidates would be advised to write a very brief plan and then put a line through it
- Imagination, insight and interesting ideas are just as important as accurate expression.

Candidates may benefit from exam practice using any 13+ 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 will be helpful for pupils considering joining us in Year 9.

Holistic assessment

Candidates will spend time in a small group undertaking a task. No preparation is required or indeed possible for this task. Candidates will also undertake a 15-minute interview with a member of our pastoral team, this will explore their academic and co-curricular preferences and their motivation for joining LGS. No preparation is required or indeed possible for this interview.

During this holistic assessment we are looking for children with the potential to succeed at LGS. This is often shown by spark, enthusiasm, curiosity and resilience, with an ability to respond to instruction and work with other children.

Interview

Once the exams are marked, we may wish to interview some candidates further. This may be for one of two reasons:

- When it would be helpful to have further information to make a decision in the best interests of the child.
- Where parents have applied for bursary assistance.

