

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

The vast majority of pupils seeking to join Year 6 (Prep) 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 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.

Mathematics test

We use a national, norm-related, standardised test, of multiple choice format, which is also age-related (marks are standardised according to the age of the child when the test is taken). There is also a short test on basic number work. Both parts are done without a calculator.

The overall length of the paper is 45 minutes. Before the multiple choice test itself there is a short practice test which allows pupils who are unfamiliar with the format of the test to learn how to approach such questions.

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. Co-ordinates in 1 quadrant
- Handling Data: Reading from graphs and charts
- Candidates who want to prepare for this test can do so using any 10+ or 11+ mathematics papers. A range are available from Amazon and other bookshops.

English test

The paper is in two parts; there will be a comprehension, which consists of a series of questions based on a selected passage, followed by a creative writing task. Candidates have 10 minutes reading time followed by one hour to complete the written examination.

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 10+ or 11+ English papers. A range are available from Amazon and other bookshops.

Holistic assessment

Candidates will spend time as a group undertaking physical activities. This is not traditional sport, but a chance to assess how they respond to instruction and work with other children. Candidates will also be interviewed. Interviews are undertaken in pairs with one teacher and two children. No preparation is required or indeed possible for this interview. Candidates will also undertake an enjoyable task in small groups.

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 answer questions honestly and independently.

