

13+ 2021 Entrance Process Update (29th September 2020)

Exams

The 13+ exam will continue to be held on <u>Saturday 16th January</u>. The candidates will be divided into groups with staggered arrival and departure times.

The duration of the papers will be slightly reduced allowing us to sequence the larger number of small groups on the day. The range of skills assessed will remain the same as usual. Sample papers are available on the school website.

Maths: 45 minutes. A calculator paper with an arithmetic and problem solving section.

English: 45 minutes. The format of this paper will be slightly adjusted - the composition element will be incorporated into the comprehension section. In addition to short comprehension answers there will also be at least one longer answer where writing a short passage will be required.

Science: 45 minutes. There will be a broad range of questions across the three sciences (biology, chemistry and physics).

Language (French, German, Spanish or Latin): 30 minutes. Reading and writing skills will be tested.

Exam Concessions

It is vital that applications for exam concessions are received by Friday 13th November (this date has not changed). We will use this information to allocate groups accordingly. Please refer to the school website for more information. Unfortunately, late requests cannot be processed.

Safety on the school site

We will continue to follow the government's guidance to ensure everyone's safety and wellbeing throughout the visit. Further details of safety measures, as well as arrival and departure instructions, will be sent to you towards the end of the autumn term.

The impact of lockdown on progress and learning

We understand that children have received different provisions of remote learning during lockdown. Pupils and parents should not be concerned about the impact the lockdown has

had on pupils' learning. We are conscious of the challenges presented and will remain mindful of these during the application process.

Interviews

Candidates who perform sufficiently in the entrance exams will be asked to attend Zoom interviews in January. During the interview candidates will discuss with their interviewer their academic interests at school and their interests beyond the classroom. There will also be a mental maths element and an article to read which will be discussed with the interviewer.

School reports

We know that many schools will have written shorter reports for the summer term. In some cases, no report has been written. These reports also reflect an extremely unusual time. Please do not be concerned as we will be mindful of the context in which they were written.

Headteacher's references

As usual, we will be requesting a headteacher's reference for each candidate in the autumn term.

Scholarships and help with fees (bursaries)

We are committed to offering full and partially-funded places to bright and ambitious pupils. This represents our wider commitment to social mobility in South West London. The application forms and further details are available on our website under the admissions section.

Application forms for co-curricular scholarships (sport, music, drama and art) are also available on the admissions section of the website.

There is no need to make an application for an academic scholarship; these are awarded to candidates who perform outstandingly in the entrance process.

The deadline for submission for scholarships and help with fees is Friday 13th November (this date has not changed).

Scholarship assessment

It is important to note that the logistics of the assessment process for co-curricular scholarships is under review due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Those that have made an application for a co-curricular scholarship will be contacted shortly after Friday 13th November with the details of the revised assessment process.

Thank you for understanding why we have had to make these adjustments.