

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 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 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 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. 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 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.

## Holistic assessment

Candidates will spend time in a small group undertaking a series of tasks around the school. No preparation is required or indeed possible for these tasks.

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 will interview some candidates. 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.

