

### **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.

### **Mathematics**

The paper will take one hour and has both calculator and non-calculator sections. 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 14+ exam will consist of questions based on Year 8 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 with whole numbers, fractions and decimals. Percentages (including increase and decrease). Ratios. Approximations to calculations. Expressing numbers in standard form
- Algebra: Substitution into formulae, creation of formulae. Solving linear equations
- Shape and Space: Areas of circles, triangles, rectangles, parallelograms and compound shapes. Volumes of prisms. Pythagoras Theorem. Co-ordinates and straight lines
- Handling Data: Drawing and interpreting pie charts and bar charts. Cumulative frequency graphs. Simple probability
- Problem solving: Using familiar mathematics to solve logical problems.

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

## English

The examination will consist of a 90 minute. Section A of this paper requires a mature and critical approach to literature and an appreciation of style, tone, narrative technique and a basic understanding of figurative language in poetry and prose. Section B requires the demonstration of the above skills in personal writing, e.g. a creative essay or a discursive account.

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 is essential reading for pupils considering joining us in Year 10.

## Interview

We interview all candidates. There will be three interviews for each candidate, with each lasting about 20 minutes:

- Science interview – this will test your child's knowledge and understanding of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. We will ask questions, and discuss topics, from the KS3 science curriculum. We expect to see knowledge and understanding at a level which will allow candidates to move on to GCSE with success.
  - Humanities interview – this will test your child's knowledge and understanding of Geography, History and RS. We will ask questions, and discuss topics, from the KS3 curriculum. We expect to see knowledge and understanding at a level which will allow candidates to move on to GCSE with success.
  - A general interview – to understand your child's co-curricular interests, reasons for moving school and approach to learning.
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