Guidance for Parents (FAQs)

Quest

How does the assessment work, and what will be tested?

The assessment is online and can be taken on any modern device (e.g. computer, laptop or tablet). It will cover the following subject components:

Verbal Reasoning	15 minutes
Non-Verbal Reasoning	15 minutes
English	20 minutes
Maths	20 minutes

How long will the assessments take?

The assessment itself will be 1 hour and 10 minutes long altogether - see the previous section for a breakdown.

The Non-Verbal Reasoning, Verbal Reasoning and Maths will be adaptive: the questions that each applicant will see will be unique, as they will get harder or easier as they move through the assessment to ensure they are at the right level for each individual. For this reason, students won't be able to skip or go back and change their answers to questions.

English will be non-adaptive: students will all see the same questions, although some will progress further through the questions than others (this is because there are more questions than students are expected to be able to finish). Students will have the ability to move backwards and forwards and be able to change their answers.

How will students manage their time?

During the assessment, students will see a timer on their screen showing them how long they have left for each section. It will be visible but not so large as to distract them from their work.

What resources can my child use during the assessment?

Students will only be permitted blank scrap paper and a pen/pencil in all subjects for any working out. Students may not use any other additional materials during any stage of the assessment e.g. dictionaries, thesauruses, calculators, rulers, mobile phones, etc.

What about students eligible for extra time?

Students eligible for extra time will be asked to indicate their entitlement at the point of application to {school}. Where extra time is approved for a student, the additional time will be automatically added to the timer visible on their screen for each section of their assessment.

I would like to know more about the assessments. What can you tell me?

Reasoning

Subject	Non-Verbal Reasoning	Verbal Reasoning
What's being assessed	Number, Algebra, Ratio, Proportion and Rates of Change, Geometry and Measures Probability and Statistics Mathematical reasoning Problem-solving Spatial and visual reasoning	Deducing conclusions Identifying and summarising main themes Identifying how language and structure contribute to meaning Analysing an author's use of language and considering the impact on the reader Understanding & manipulating challenging vocabulary Thinking critically and using logic to make high-level deductions

English & Maths

Subject	English	Maths
What's being assessed	Reading Comprehension	Algebra Number Geometry Probability Data Maths Challenge

Why is the entry assessment online? What type of device will students use?

Many senior schools run online assessments, which is more efficient with students' time and provides a more enjoyable experience. There is no extended typing exercise required, so typing ability will not impact results.

The entry assessment can be taken on a range of devices including iPads, PCs, laptops and Chromebooks.

My child is an overseas applicant. Where will they take the assessment?

Students are welcome to travel to sit the assessment at our school. If you would prefer your child to sit the assessment overseas, please contact our Admissions team to find out how to proceed. Students who are living overseas may take the assessment under exam conditions at their current school or at a test centre.

How much preparation does my child have to do for the entry assessment?

We recommend that all students look at the familiarisation materials provided. All knowledge tested in the assessment is based on skills that students will be developing in school, so they will not need any special tuition or intensive practice. Instead, they are encouraged to read widely and to practise lateral and critical thinking skills.