

Criteria for entry to Year 5 (9+) 2018 and 2019

The children who benefit from an education at Highgate are bright, motivated and sociable young people, keen to learn and willing to rise to the challenges of a curriculum that stretches them academically. They should be capable of working independently for at least thirty minutes without adult supervision or prompting.

Decency and sensitivity towards each other are qualities we value highly. In the classroom and at play, therefore, we expect our pupils to be respectful, cooperative and considerate.

We test the children formally in English and Mathematics and, depending on the number of applications they will also have a short interview (no explicit preparation is required for the interview) and a group activity.

English

The test in English is written to identify pupils who are confident with language, both in their reading and their writing. We would expect the very best candidates to:

- Have an appreciation of both fiction and non-fiction texts and their purposes
- Be able to use a range of punctuation accurately and make good attempts at using more challenging punctuation such as semi-colons, colons and speech marks
- Be able to extract relevant information from a passage and also make simple inferences based on the text
- Have a good sense of spelling rules and patterns and be able to make good attempts at more challenging words

Mathematics

The test in Mathematics is written to identify pupils who have a secure knowledge of arithmetic, a clear understanding of the mathematical concepts covered up to the time of our tests in Year 4, and a confident control of the associated techniques. The test will not require knowledge beyond that taught at Key Stage 2.

The ability to reason coherently and clearly, and to explain in writing one's reasoning, is important: some questions will explicitly request that detailed justification of a solution to a problem be given.

The following areas are of particular importance:

- To show confidence and accuracy using methods of division
- To show confidence and accuracy using methods of multiplication
- To demonstrate good mental strategies
- To understand the relationship between fractions and decimals
- To show secure understanding and quick recall of times tables
- To describe the properties of 2D shapes
- To be confident solving multi-step word problems
- To mentally subtract and add by partitioning

- To count forwards and backwards using negative numbers
- To convert between units of measure

Report from current school

We will request a copy of your child's year 3 report from their current school. We may speak directly to a child's school if we believe this would be helpful.

Key Dates for 9+ 2018

Applications must be received by 31 October 2017 at the latest.

9+ Entry Tests will take place on Thursday 16 November 2017

Please address any queries to admissions@highgateschool.org.uk