

## CRITERIA FOR ENTRY TO HIGHGATE JUNIOR SCHOOL AT 7+

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 7+ TESTS

#### GENERAL

The children will be given three separate exam papers (Arithmetic, Reasoning and English). They will be required to sit and work independently for an extended period of time (up to 50 minutes per paper). The instructions will be verbal as well as written and the children will be expected to interpret these without assistance. In addition to achieving a good performance in all three tests, we would expect the children to behave in a courteous and cooperative manner on the test day and be well-motivated to complete the tasks to the best of their ability.

#### ACADEMIC - English

The English paper consists of two written comprehensions and a creative writing task.

For the comprehension paper, the children will be expected to read and extract relevant information from a passage, which could be from a variety of different writing genres. They will need to explain language choices and make inferences about the content of the passage. For the writing task, they will need to write an extended answer based on the comprehension passages. Though the marking criteria emphasises composition and effect, the children will also be assessed on their spelling and ability to use simple punctuation reliably. We would expect them to spell many commonly occurring words correctly and have a good sense of spelling rules and patterns.

#### ACADEMIC - Maths

There are two Maths papers: an arithmetic paper and a reasoning paper. They consist of a selection of mixed concepts and may include the following topics:

- Read and write two-digit and three-digit numbers in figures and words; describe and extend number sequences and recognise odd and even numbers.
- Explain what each digit in a two-digit number represents and partition such numbers.
- Order and compare numbers and position them on a number line using the greater than (>) and less than (<) signs.
- Find one half, one quarter and three quarters of shapes and sets of objects.
- Derive and recall multiplication facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times-tables and the related division facts.
- Use written methods and related vocabulary to support multiplication and division.
- Use the symbols +, -, x, ÷ and = to record and interpret number sentences involving all four operations; calculate the value of an unknown number in a number sentence.
- Visualise and identify common 2-D shapes and 3-D solids; sort, make and describe shapes, referring to their properties.
- Use lists, tables and diagrams to sort objects.
- Use the units of time (seconds, minutes, hours, days) and to identify time intervals; tell the time on analogue and digital clocks.
- Estimate, compare and measure lengths, weights and capacities, choosing and using standard units (m, cm, kg, litre).
- Solve word problems involving the four number operations in various contexts.
- Present solutions to problems in an organised way, explaining results in pictorial or written form.
- Spot patterns and solve problems using visual reasoning.

## THE INTERVIEW DAY

We invite approximately half the candidates to come back to Highgate for an interview day in January. This is many more children than we have places for in Year 3. Our admissions panel considers the children's interview day performance alongside their test scores when making offers.

On the interview day, children can expect to participate in classroom-based lesson activities and a small group discussion. At no stage do they have a formal 1:1 interview. Our assessors will be looking out for the children's character skills, (outlined below) with a focus on curiosity, respect, empathy and determination. Children attending interviews will be expected to be able to work collaboratively in small groups and to be comfortable with taking turns and sharing.

### School Values and Character Skills

Our whole school values are:

- Learning and scholarship
- A reflective community
- Exemplar for the healthy life

These are upheld in the Junior School when:

- We demonstrate respect for ourselves and others
- We understand, reflect and learn from actions and experiences
- We embrace our own and others' successes failures and challenges, and own them

The character skills we aim to foster in the Junior School are:

- **Curiosity** – For a life-long love of learning
- **Respect** – For yourself and those around you
- **Empathy** – Trying to understand things from other peoples' points of view
- **Determination** – To always strive to be the best version of yourself (but don't be unkind to yourself if you don't always achieve this)

Please see [www.highgateschool.org.uk/admissions](http://www.highgateschool.org.uk/admissions) for further details about the admissions process.

**N B** *The points outlined above are a guide for parents only.*

July 2023