



ALLEYN'S SCHOOL

11+ & 13+ ENTRANCE & SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS

11+ Entrance/Scholarship Exam Syllabus

Candidates sit three papers during the course of one morning:

- 1 **Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning Test (multiple-choice)** (1 hour)
Answers are marked on a pre-printed answer sheet.

- 2 **English** (1 hour 10 mins): It is essential time is managed carefully and we suggest 10 minutes reading time, one hour writing time.
The examination consists of two sections:
 1. A prose passage, followed by comprehension questions: the questions test understanding, both of what has been read (including vocabulary) and the effects of the writer's use of language. This section is worth 50% of the marks.
 2. A directed composition: fluency and accuracy of written expression are the prime criteria for this section; imaginative flair will also be rewarded. This section is worth 50% of the marks.

- 3 **Mathematics** (1 hour)
Candidates should bring pencil, ruler and eraser to the examination; calculators are not needed. The examination is largely set on the contents of Levels 1 to 5 of the four attainment targets of the National Curriculum. The final questions on the paper are harder, extension questions and are self-explanatory.

Full details of the Level descriptions for Mathematics can be found on the National Curriculum website at <http://curriculum.qca.org.uk> → Key stage 1&2 → Subjects → Mathematics → KS2 Study → Attainment targets.

See note overleaf about decimal separators

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13+ Entrance/Scholarship Examination Syllabus

Candidates sit four papers during the course of the day:

- 1 **English** (1¼ hours) It is essential time is managed carefully and we suggest 15 minutes reading time, one hour writing time.

The examination consists of two sections:

3. A prose passage, followed by comprehension questions: the questions test understanding, both of what has been read (including vocabulary) and the effects of the writer's use of language. This section is worth 70% of the marks.
4. A directed composition: fluency and accuracy of written expression are the prime criteria for this section; imaginative flair will also be rewarded. This section is worth 30% of the marks.

- 2 **Mathematics** (1¼ hours)

Candidates should bring a calculator, pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, protractor and compasses. The examination is broadly set on the contents of Levels 1 to 6 of the four attainment targets of the National Curriculum together with Level 7 in Number and Algebra. The final questions on the paper are harder, extension questions and are self-explanatory.

Full details of the Level descriptions for Mathematics can be found on the National Curriculum website at <http://curriculum.qca.org.uk> → Key stage 3&4 → Subjects → Mathematics → KS3 Study → Attainment targets.

See note on the next page about decimal separators

- 3 **Science** (1 hour)

The Science exam paper consists of a variety of multiple choice, structured and extended response questions set mostly at Key Stage 3 level although it is assumed that candidates will be familiar with earlier work covered at Key Stage 2. The following list gives an indication of some of the topics from which questions may be selected:

The nature of solids, liquids and gases. Chemical and physical changes; elements, compounds and mixtures. Symbols and formulae. Separating techniques (eg chromatography). The air; oxidation; the fire triangle. Acids, alkalis and indicators. The periodic table. Metals and non-metals. The reactivity series. The water cycle. The rock cycle. Rusting of iron and corrosion of metals. Examples of raw materials. Man made materials. Tests for simple gases. Structure and function in plant and animal cells. Outline of the main organs and organ systems of the human body. Classification of main plant and animal groups. Sexual reproduction; examples of external and internal fertilisation. Human reproduction and growth (to adolescence). Flower structure, reproduction leading to fruit and seed formation. Basic ideas on force and its effects. Simple optics and sound. Basic electrical circuits and concepts. Energy transfers and resources.

Candidates should be familiar with safe working practice in the science laboratory.

- 4 **French, Spanish or German** (¾ hour)

The examination assumes candidates have been learning the language for at least four terms and tests their ability to understand a number of short passages in that language, their ability to write simple sentences and their knowledge of basic vocabulary and grammar.

The reading comprehension passages include some multiple-choice questions as well as short answers in English. The writing component consists of a short gap-filling verb exercise in the present tense, the composing of a short postcard (30 words), and a slightly longer letter (60-70 words). Areas of vocabulary will include those most commonly encountered in Key Stage 3 textbooks such as *House and Home*, *School Life*, *Leisure Activities*, etc.

We expect candidates to be familiar with the following tenses of regular and common irregular verbs:

French: *Présent, Passé Composé* and *Futur Proche*. Instances of the *Imparfait* may be encountered in the reading comprehension.

Spanish: Present, near future and preterite

German: Present and perfect

Mathematical Note: Decimal Separators

The symbol used to separate the integer part of a decimal from its fractional part is called the decimal point. Candidates from overseas should be aware that in Britain the decimal point is denoted by a period (eg 31.241). In some countries the notation is different: for example, many European countries use a comma in place of the decimal point (eg 31,241).

Candidates at both 11+ and 13+ are expected to be aware of the British system for decimal points and should note that questions will be set in this style. However, the candidate's own answer may be written in the style that is familiar to them.

Exam Concessions

We allow the use of a word processor or extra time for parts of the examination only where supported by the recent written recommendation of a suitably qualified psychologist. For further details contact the Registrar.

Practice Papers

A set of sample exam papers at 11+ and 13+ can be downloaded from our website (www.alleyns.org.uk → Senior School → Admissions) but we do not publish past papers. For further practice in English, Maths or Reasoning at 11+ we recommend practice papers published by GL Assessment/Letts Education (www.gl-assessment.co.uk) and Learning Together (www.learningtogether.co.uk), and Bond Assessment papers published by Nelson Thornes (www.nelsonthornes.com). Suitable practice papers for 13+ tests are also published by Nelson Thornes. You can buy these from good bookshops such as Village Books (Dulwich Village branch at 1d Caltan Avenue, tel: 020 8693 2808, Wandsworth Common branch at 6 Bellevue Road, tel: 020 8672 4413) as well as online from the publishers.

Interviews

Candidates reaching an acceptable standard in the entrance examination are invited by telephone for a 20-minute interview at the school with one of the teachers on the school's admissions panel team. Parents are not interviewed. Candidates will be asked about their interests in and out of school, there is a reading test and mental mathematics questions may be asked in some cases. Parents will be advised if their child is under consideration for an academic scholarship at 11+ and these candidates will be invited for a longer interview.

For further information

Contact the Registrar's office: telephone 020 8557 1478 or email registrar@alleyns.org.uk
Visit our website: www.alleyns.org.uk