

Rugby High School Information for Parents and Children Sitting the 11+

The eleven plus test is held on a Saturday morning in September. Alcester Grammar School, Ashlawn, Lawrence Sheriff School, King Edward VI Stratford, Stratford Girls' Grammar School all share the same test. The test is set and marked by the University of Durham's CEM Centre. Your parents will be told the mark that you achieved on the test in mid October. This will give you time to decide which secondary schools you want to apply for a place at.

Where will I sit the 11+ test?

Your parents must register you to sit the 11+ test before 9th July 2014. They will be sent a letter by the Admissions Department of Warwickshire County Council telling them (and you) where you will sit the test. Tests are held in secondary schools (including Rugby High School) as well as in other venues.

What will happen on the day of the test?

Registration

You will be told what time to arrive at the test centre. It is important to be on time to register. Your name will be checked off on a list. The person registering you will check you or your parents have your fit and well form and then they will give you a number. This is the number of the desk that you will be sitting at in the exam room. There will be a lot of students to register so be prepared to queue.

The Exam Room

Once you have registered, you will be asked to find your seat in the room where you will be taking the examination. On the desk there will be a plastic wallet; this contains your photograph, your details and your parents' contact details. Your parents need to put the form that they have signed to say that you are well and fit to take the exam in the back of this plastic wallet.

Exam rooms can be quite large. At Rugby High School, we use our school hall. This is a picture of our hall set up for exams.



There are lots of desks. There may be more desks in this room than there are pupils at your primary school. Your parents will not be allowed to stay in the exam room so be prepared to say goodbye to them once you have sat down at your desk.

Invigilators

The examination will be run by a group of people called invigilators. These are people who have been specially trained to support students sitting examinations. The invigilators' job is to make sure that everyone sitting the examination follows the instructions that they are given and that no one talks when they shouldn't or cheats.

At the start of the examination one invigilator will hand you a question booklet that is already has your name on it and another will pick up your poly pocket and check your identity. The invigilator checking your identity looks at the picture supplied by your parents as part of the application process and checks that you are the person who appears in the photograph. This is done so that we can be sure that the person sitting the 11+ is really you and not someone else.

Invigilators are there to help students with problems during the examination e.g. if you need the toilet or a tissue. If you have a problem, you should put your hand up and an invigilator will come to see you. Invigilators are not allowed to give you any assistance which might help you to answer a question so, for example, they cannot tell you what a question means or what the question says.

The Exam

When your parent registers you for the 11+ test, they will be sent a familiarisation paper. This is a short paper designed by the University of Durham CEM Centre to give you an idea of what the paper will look like and the kind of questions that will be set. The examination consists of two papers. Each paper is divided into sections. You will be told how much time you will be given to answer the questions in each section. At the beginning of each section, there are some examples to help you to understand how to answer the questions e.g.

Judith buys a litre of milk for £1.00 and a box of cereal for £2.39. How much change will she have if she pays for these items using a £5 note?

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You write your answers in the question booklet. If you can't answer a question, skip it and try the next question. If you have any time left at the end of the section, you can go back and try to complete any question in that section that you haven't yet answered.

It is a good idea to have a go at answering the questions on the familiarisation paper before you sit the test. The correct answers are at the end of the familiarisation paper.

The instructions that you will be given at various points in the test are pre-recorded so you will hear a voice but you will not see the person talking to you.

Feelings

Some people feel very confident about examinations, others feel quite nervous and anxious. If you feel like you have got butterflies in your tummy, try not to worry too much about this. Other people will be feeling just like you. Some students find that sucking on a mint or a polo just before they go

into the exam room is quite comforting and helps to make their tummy feel better. It also helps to smile. This makes you relax and helps you to feel positive.

Toilets

All the examination centres have toilets so don't be afraid to ask an invigilator if you need the loo. Please try to do this before the exam starts or in the break between exams rather than in the middle of the exam.

What happens if I am ill on the day of the examination?

Sometimes students are ill on the day of the examination. Your parents will have been given instructions by the Admissions Department about what to do if this happens to you so don't worry. Students who are not well sit the examination at a later date once they have recovered.

End of the exam

Your parents will be told what time to arrive at the test centre to collect you. You will have to stay in the examination room until a parent has come and collected you from the room. The test centre cannot allow any children to leave without an accompanying adult.