

The Mayfield Procedure (Optional): Admissions to Year 7 September 2026

Additional Information

Testing will be in two parts:

- A computer based test set by CEM Durham. This will assess verbal ability, numerical reasoning and non-verbal reasoning. The marking will weight verbal ability more than numerical reasoning and non-verbal reasoning. The test will be broken up into sections. Verbal, Maths and Non-Verbal and there will be examples for practise within the sections.
- An English paper which will assess writing skills. The paper will consist of a passage to read and then a number of writing tasks from which one title has to be chosen to respond to. The English paper will be marked by staff from the English faculty.

The computer test will be scored separately from the English paper and a minimum acceptable performance on both will be expected.

Pupils will sit the tests in either order and this will be confirmed in a detailed letter of the arrangements which will be sent to parents in the first week of September 2025.

CEM assessments are skill-based and focus on verbal, mathematical and non-verbal ability only. They do not draw upon national curriculum content beyond that which they would expect a child of that age to be able to access.

CEM advises parents that children can best prepare for their 11+ selection assessments by learning to work quietly on their own, completing homework set by their school and by reading and trying to understand all the words in any books they read. Children should also, wherever possible, be encouraged to try to solve problems by looking things up for themselves. CEM does not provide any commercially available mock exams, practice papers or sample materials for use by parents. CEM also does not endorse, support or work with any third-party provider of materials or tuition services.

In order to help candidates understand the assessment procedures and introduce them to the look and feel of the assessments, a familiarisation website for parents and candidates is provided and can be found here:

<https://plus.cem.org/cemselectfam>

We strongly advise that pupils make use of the familiarisation website. You may need to install the Adobe Flash Player.