



Colyton Grammar School

Est. 1546

Frequently Asked Questions for 11+ Admissions & In-Year Testing

How will the school ensure it maintains its academic excellence?

Selection to the school is still based on academic ability and the need to achieve the pass mark in all areas.

Can I have a tour of the school?

We do not provide individual tours of the school; the only times available to tour the school are during open days which will be advertised on the website. We recommend that you only attend the open days that are relevant to the year of entry as information changes annually and to allow for more students of relevant year of entry to attend.

What test do you use for the 11+ testing?

We use Quest Assessments for our Year 7 Entrance Test: their papers consist of Maths and English questions which rely solely on knowledge and understanding from the Key Stage 2 National Curriculum. The tests are designed to be child-friendly in format and instructions.

The test is approximately two and a half hours long including breaks. You can find more information here: <https://www.questassessments.com/parent-guidance>

How are the tests marked?

Most 11+ papers use OMR (Optical Mark Recognition) answer sheets. This means your child won't write out answers — instead, they'll draw a line through a box beside the answer they've chosen. Quest designs the mark scheme for their papers and will mark the papers. All marks are 'standardised', according to the age in years and months of the applicant, to produce a final score. Standardising scores on the basis of age means that there is no fixed raw mark total for qualification as the number of correct answers required will vary according to the child's age.

How are places allocated?

The Admissions Committee of Colyton Grammar School ranks all children on the eligible list. The Committee will determine, by reference to performance in the tests, a rank order of students who should be offered a place. Places will be offered to those students who meet the required standard in



the tests. Should more than 160 students meet the required standard, places will be awarded by rank order of test score.

The Admissions Committee will provide Devon LA with a list of all eligible applicants ranked by order by 31 December. Where there are more eligible applicants than there are places available in the Year, the offer is determined by the application of the priorities for Admission Criteria (the available places are defined by the Published Admission Number).

When are results available?

Results of the tests will be available at least one week before the national deadline for submission of the Common Application Form (deadline for the Common Application Form is 31 October).

On National Allocation Day (the first working day in March), the Local Authority will inform parents of the school that has been allocated.

Can I find out my child's ranking on the test?

For both the 11+ and in-year tests, we do not release the ranking, however we will be releasing anonymised scores on our website for the 11+ after March 1st of the relevant academic year after offers have been given by your Local Authority. This is compliant of SAR and FOI requests.

Does being on the Eligible List guarantee a place?

No. It means the child has attained eligible status. There will be 160 places available in Year 7. The places are allocated in an order ranked by the Admissions Criteria. Please see our Admissions policy if you would like further information on the Admissions Criteria.

Is it possible to appeal against a decision not to admit a child?

Yes. Any parent whose child has applied for and been refused a place may appeal to the Independent Appeals Committee against the decision not to allocate a place.

Following receipt of the letter from the LA notifying parents of non-allocation, notification of the wish to appeal should be addressed to the Clerk to the Devon Appeals Panel, c/o Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QD. More information can be found at:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/school-appeals/>

Is it possible to enter the school after year 7?

Yes. Students can take in-year tests.



It should be noted that assuming an eligible score, a place on the waiting list will be offered for the relevant year group and any places that subsequently become available will be offered in the order determined by the Admissions Criteria.

A Common Application Form should be completed through the home Local Authority following the test results. Please note that any place that becomes available is offered for an immediate start, within reason, i.e. a place cannot be held open.

The testing is held three times a year towards the end of each term; if you would like your child to take the test then you will need to have applied in that term. You cannot apply in advance of a term, e.g. you cannot apply in November for the test in June, the child would be assigned to the December test. An individual student's results are held on the relevant waiting list for the academic year until the time of the December test in the new academic year. Only one test can be taken per academic year.

How does in-year testing work? What years can take the test?

At Colyton Grammar School we do not have Year 9 (after the first half term), 10 or 11 intakes, due to having a three-year Key Stage 4 curriculum.

What test do you use for the in-year testing?

We very rarely have spaces available in-year but have many applications. We currently use the CEM evaluate test. CEM are a nationally recognised exam provider, and the test is held at CGS and is approximately 50 minutes. The test gives us sufficiently rich information for us to rank against our current cohort to offer a place according to the oversubscription criteria, should a place become available. You can find a link to the familiarisation guide for the test on the website.

How long are the results from the in-year test valid?

All the results are valid up until 31st December in the new academic year, it is at that point the results will become invalid and your child will need to retake the test to be considered for enrolment.

Do you have licensed tutors? And is coaching necessary?

No, we do not have licensed tutors.

Schools are not expected to coach pupils for the papers. There is no advantage, beyond the familiarisation materials provided by this school, in coaching for the tests. Indeed, there is every prospect that it can create confusion and anxiety.

The tests aim to reflect Key Stage 2 of the National Curriculum which is followed by all primary schools. Familiarisation materials are not commercially available.



Can I ask other parents for advice?

Under no circumstances should any child or family member discuss, or publish the content of the Entrance Test at any time to ensure the security of the Test. This includes speaking to other children, parents / carers, other family members, their teachers or tutors.

It should be stressed that anything shared may help other candidates and could result in their child not being offered a place.

