



Year 7 Places awarded on Academic Ability and for Aptitude in Sport and Music

Tests for places awarded on academic ability and assessments for places awarded on aptitude assessments for Year 7 entry take place in late September/early October before the year of entry.

Applications can be made for any or all of these entry routes and a minimum score is not required for any of the assessments.

Rankings will be sent to parents/carers after the Governors' Admission Committee have met and the rank order will be submitted to the Local Authority who offer places in rank order to those parents/carers who have selected the School as a preferred choice under the co-ordinated admissions arrangements.

OSHOT Test for places awarded on ability

The assessment test is the Old Swinford Hospital Online Test (OSHOT), a test designed by the University of Durham to assess academic potential in a more objective and less stressful way than traditional IQ-type tests.

OSHOT is taken in the School at a computer terminal and whilst it requires familiarity with a computer keyboard and mouse, it is not a test of computer proficiency.

OSHOT is designed to be novel and engaging for candidates and comprises tests for the following qualities:

- Assessing visuo-spatial skills
- Assessing speed and accuracy in number skills
- Tasks aimed to assess understanding in reading
- Assessing abstract reasoning
- Assessing vocabulary skills
- Applying mathematical skills to novel situations

The nature of the tasks set means that there is little or no advantage to be gained from using commercially available materials to prepare for OSHOT. OSHOT may be taken by different boys at different times without compromising the integrity of the test. Results are age standardised.

Aptitude for Sport

The sport aptitude assessment will take place during a school day and consist of a series of sessions aimed at exploring a range of components of fitness which may include, for example:

- Agility
- Co-ordination
- Flexibility
- Muscular endurance
- Power
- Speed
- Stamina

Aptitude for Music

The Music Aptitude Assessment will take place during a school day and aims to explore musical interest through a series of questions and tasks aimed which may include you:

- Telling us about your interest in music
- Recognising genres of music
- Listening to a piece of music and describing why you like and/or dislike it.
- Recognising specific instruments and their instrumental family by sound and by sight.
- Notating a melody played to you.
- Listening to melodies and identifying them from a list of notations.
- Drawing a series of musical notes and signs and identifying the number of beats of a series of musical notes.
- Analysing a piece of music., identifying the musical signs.
- Listing members of given the instrumental families and putting them in order of highest to lowest pitch.
- Composing your own short melody.

Please Note:

The School can accommodate applications for places awarded on aptitude from disabled pupils. The School should be informed of any disability at the earliest possible time to ensure that an appropriate aptitude assessment can be put in place. Please contact us on Admissions @oshsch.com or call 01384 817325