



# Guidance for entry at 11+

Forest School offers approximately 140 places for boys and girls at age 11 in September each year. They will join our pupils from the Preparatory School to form eight single-sex classes in Year 7. Competition for places is high; 700 candidates applied for places in 2020.

From age 11-16 years, girls and boys are taught separately for all lessons and come together for assemblies, clubs, trips, lunch and break times. At age 16 pupils will join co-educational classes for Sixth Form study (in the Preparatory School, pupils are taught together from age 4 then taught separately from age 7 to 11 years).

## Requirements for Entry in September 2021

Candidates should have reached the age of 11 before 1 September 2021. Applications must be received by Midday on Friday 27 November 2020. Parents are required to complete the online registration form via our website [www.forest.org.uk](http://www.forest.org.uk) and submit a non-returnable registration fee of £150 (overseas registrations are £200).

## Selection Criteria

**Examination** - performance in English and Mathematics (page 3).

**Reference** - a written, confidential report from the candidate's current school.

**Interview** - We are acutely aware that due to COVID-19 pupils of all ages have had an extremely disrupted learning experience with the majority of schools closed for months to all but a limited number of children. This means we will be interviewing ALL registered pupils before they sit the Entrance Exam, as opposed to only interviewing the top performing pupils after the exam as in previous years. This will enable us to identify potential in pupils who may not perform as well as they otherwise might in the Entrance Exam. Interviews will be held via Microsoft Teams. Please note following the interview ALL applicants will be invited to sit the entrance exam on the 11 January 2021.

## Sample Papers

11+ sample Maths and English papers can be downloaded from the School website, [www.forest.org.uk](http://www.forest.org.uk)

## Siblings

Whilst we appreciate the desire to keep families together, parents should be aware that there is therefore no guarantee or expectation that a sibling will be offered a place.

Parents of twins or other multiples applying for places together should also be aware that the outcome of each child's application may differ from the other(s).

Likewise, siblings applying at the same time for different entry points may receive different outcomes. If we have to decide between two or more candidates who meet our entrance criteria, we may give preference to twins (or other multiples), siblings or children with a particular skill, talent or aptitude.

## Taster Mornings

We will hope to hold our two Taster mornings on Wednesday 24 February and Friday 26 February 2021 for candidates who have been offered a place at Forest School.



**FOREST**  
SCHOOL

## Scholarships, Bursaries and Assisted Places

Academic, Music and Sport Scholarships are offered at 11+ entry. Academic Scholarships are awarded based on a combination of exceptional performance in the entrance examination and a scholarship interview and, once awarded, are subject to annual review.

Academic, Music and Sport Scholarships are not means-tested and are awarded in percentage increments up to 25% of full fees. 25% of full fees is the maximum non-means-tested fee remission awarded in respect of any one pupil, whether in one area of excellence or in a combination of one or more areas of excellence.

Bursaries are means-tested and are awarded in addition to Scholarships, up to and including the total remission of fees; in other words, a free place. Candidates are only considered for a Bursary if they meet the criteria for either an Academic, Music or Sport Scholarship (or combination of these) meaning Bursaries are awarded in conjunction with a Scholarship fee remission (which as above are awarded in increments up to a maximum of 25%).

The change to the maximum Scholarship award from September 2021 means that more funds will be available for means-tested fee remissions such as Bursaries and

Assisted Places. This is consistent with our stated ambition to ensure that fee remissions are increasingly targeted at those with the greatest financial need, an approach shared by other leading London Independent Day Schools in response to the affordability gap that can prevent able children benefitting from an independent school education.

The 25% cap will not affect the current holders of scholarships of more than 25% and there will be no change to the fee remissions that have already been awarded under our existing Scholarship scheme. The 25% limit will only apply to those pupils applying for a place in September 2021. Over the next two years, non-means tested scholarships will be subject to ongoing review. Again, this will not affect existing recipients.

Parents are asked to refer to the income bands on the School website to determine eligibility for bursarial assistance.

In addition to the bursary money offered in conjunction with a scholarship as outlined above, we also offer separately eight 11+ Assisted Places (100% fee remission i.e. a free place at Forest). Assisted Places will be awarded based on greatest financial need. Please visit our website for more details and complete Form 1 in the first instance to confirm your eligibility.



## Academic Scholarships

Following the Entrance Examination, high-achieving applicants will then be invited back to Forest for a scholarship interview.

## Entrance Examination

In light of COVID-19 we are reducing the duration of both the English paper and Maths paper to 45 minutes. This will limit the time candidates spend on the School site and allow us to run more exam sessions of fewer pupils throughout the day if necessary.

**Mathematics - 45 minutes** (non-calculator) with questions on numerical skills and reasoning. Questions require arithmetical knowledge such as addition, multiplication and fractions. There are problems to solve in a variety of contexts, some of which the pupils may not have met before. These will be explained in the question.

We are looking for candidates who can use logical and creative thinking when problem-solving.

This year there will be separate answer sheet on which to write the final answers. This will be clearly explained in the examination.

### English - 45 minutes

Questions will assess reading and comprehension.

We are looking for evidence that applicants have clearly understood what has happened in the passage. Candidates who do well demonstrate that they can understand layers of meaning and show sensitivity to the writer's use of language.

In relation to the passage, there will be one question giving candidates the opportunity to write creatively, either in a short piece of fiction or non-fiction. Here, we are looking for original and accurate writing. Candidates who do well write in an imaginative and engaging manner.

**The sample paper on our website is longer than the 45 minute paper we will be administering in 2021.**

**However, it gives a good indication of the types of question which will be asked.**



## Music Scholarships at 11+ for 2021

One of the largest and liveliest Music Departments in London. Our pupils regularly go on to study music at top universities and conservatoires, often winning scholarships.

### Entry - What we look for

Although we are looking for future potential and ongoing commitment, rather than past achievement, pupils who receive 11+ Music Scholarships are generally of the following minimum standard: Grade 4-5.

We ask that all new Music scholars joining the School at 11+ continue with Music as an academic subject until at least GCSE. All recipients of a Music Award are expected to contribute fully to the musical life of the School, which will be monitored in an annual scholarship review meeting.

### Applications

- Application can be made by ticking the appropriate box on the online registration.
- Candidates will then be sent a link to an online music application form, uploaded copies of mark sheets from the most recent practical examinations taken and any competitions entered.
- A music report from each instrumental/vocal teacher should also be attached - this must include an assessment of the candidate's musical ability, experience and potential for the future.

## MUSIC

**At Forest we are looking for bright, enthusiastic young musicians with potential and the necessary qualifications to lead by example our bands, choirs and orchestras in the future.**

### Auditions

Music Scholarship auditions take place from Tuesday 12 January to Thursday 14 January 2021. Applicants should offer performances on at least one instrument (which may be voice) and will be asked to sight-read, sight-sing and answer questions on music in general.

Scholarships are awarded based on the online application form, any reports provided (including exam marks where relevant) and performance on the day.

### Pre-Audition advice

The Director of Music, Mr Iain McGregor, is always delighted to meet with prospective scholars prior to audition in order to assist in preparation for these important events.

All candidates applying for a Music Scholarship must meet the academic standard for entry into the School. The entrance examinations will take place at Forest School on Monday 11 January 2021.

**Samantha Roach**  
[sroach@forest.org.uk](mailto:sroach@forest.org.uk)

# SPORT

Forest School has a long-standing tradition for excellence when it comes to sport.



## Sport Scholarships at 11+ for 2021

### Entry - What we look for

Successful candidates must be able to demonstrate significant potential to perform at a high level and, ideally, each candidate must excel in one of the major School sports (football, hockey, netball, cricket, swimming and athletics).

As a guide, candidates will usually be performing at regional, county or district level or equivalent, however, we understand that some candidates may not have had this opportunity at this age.

### Applications

Application for a Sport Scholarship can be made by ticking the relevant box on the registration form. Candidates will then be sent a link to the online sport application form, which will ask for detailed sporting achievements.

### Assessment

- Candidates will choose to be assessed in one of the School's major sports and will also take part in other sporting activities in order to assess athletic potential.
- The presentation of a sporting CV and appropriate evidence of sporting ability and involvement.
- Initial assessment will take place week commencing Monday 7th December with a reduced number of candidates participating per session, due to government guidance restricting the number of visitors to the School.
- Shortlisted assessments will be held on the 21 and 22 January 2021

All candidates applying for a Sport Scholarship must meet the academic standard for entry into the School.

The entrance examinations will take place at Forest School on Monday 11 January 2021.



Scholarships are awarded based on performance in this exam plus the online application combined with performance on the day.

All recipients of a Sport Scholarship are expected to contribute fully to the sporting life of the School in all three terms of the academic year, which will be monitored in an annual scholarship review meeting.

For further information please email

**Ben Adams**

**Director of Sport**  
[bda@forest.org.uk](mailto:bda@forest.org.uk)

**Admissions Office**  
[admissions@forest.org.uk](mailto:admissions@forest.org.uk)

## Key dates for 11+ entry September 2021

### 11+ Focused Forest Experience Tours

*limited availability*

Monday 15 - Friday 19 June 2020

### Virtual Open Day

Saturday 19 September 2020

### 11+ Virtual Information Morning

Saturday 21 November 2020

### Closing Date for Registrations

(Midday) Friday 27 November 2020

### 11+ Interview (via Microsoft Teams)

Saturday 28 November 2020

### 11+ Non-Academic Scholarship Deadline

(Midday) Friday 4 December 2020

### 11+ Bursary Application Form Deadline

(Midday) Friday 11 December 2020

### 11+ Receipt of School Reference Deadline

(Midday) Friday 11 December 2020

### 11+ Sport Scholarship Assessments

w/c Monday 7 December 2020

*(Boys and Girls)*

### 11+ Entrance Exam

Monday 11 January 2021

### The Forest Experience Group Tours

January - February 2021

### 11+ Music Scholarship Auditions

Tuesday 12 January -  
Thursday 14 January 2021

### 11+ Academic Scholarship Interviews

w/c Monday 18 January 2021

### 11+ Shortlisted Sports Scholarship Assessments

Thursday 21 January 2021 (*Boys*)

Friday 22 January 2021 (*Girls*)

### Offers Posted

Thursday 18 February 2021

### Taster Mornings for candidates holding offers

Wednesday 24 February 2021

and Friday 26 February 2021

### Tours

offered to candidates holding offers

Wednesday 24 February 2021

and Friday 26 February 2021

### Deadline for Acceptance of Offer

10am on Thursday 4 March 2021