



FOREST SCHOOL

16+ Guidance for Parents & Candidates (FAQs)

This guidance only concerns the Online Entrance Assessment Test sat on Saturday 2nd November, which candidates will sit as part of their Entrance Assessment Examination at Forest.

How does the assessment work, and what will be tested?

The assessment is **online** and can be taken on any modern device (e.g. computer, laptop or tablet) – Forest will be providing desktop computers for all candidates. It will cover the following subject components:

Verbal Reasoning	15 minutes
Non-Verbal Reasoning	15 minutes
Creative Comprehension (Humanities)	45 minutes

How long will the assessments take?

The online assessment itself will be 75 minutes (1 hour and 15 minutes) long altogether - see the previous section for a breakdown.

What is the format of the assessment? Is the assessment adaptive or non-adaptive, and what does this mean?

The majority of questions will be multiple choice, with only a few questions requiring students to type a single word or number at most.

Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning will be adaptive: the questions that each student will see will be unique, as they will get harder or easier as students move through the assessment to ensure they are at the right level for each individual. For this reason, students won't be able to skip or go back and change their answers to questions.

Creative Comprehension (Humanities) will be non-adaptive: students will all see the same questions. They will have the ability to move backwards and forwards and be able to change their answers.

How will students manage their time?

During the assessment, students will see a timer on their screen showing them how long they have left for each section. It will be visible but not so large as to distract them from their work.

What resources can my child use during the assessment?

Students will only be permitted blank scrap paper and a pen/pencil in all subjects for any working out. Students may not use any other additional materials during any stage of the assessment e.g. dictionaries, thesauruses, calculators, rulers, mobile phones, etc.

What about students eligible for extra time?

Students eligible for extra time will be asked to indicate their entitlement at the point of application to Forest School. Where extra time is approved for a student, the additional time will be automatically added to the timer visible on their screen for each section of their assessment.

I would like to know more about the assessments. What can you tell me?

We recommend viewing the short familiarisation exercise to get a feel for the online format of the assessment: <https://app.atomlearning.com/public/taster/forest-school>

We hope the information below is helpful to learn a little more.

Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning

Subject	Verbal Reasoning	Non-Verbal Reasoning
What's being assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding & manipulating challenging vocabulary• Thinking critically and using logic to make high-level deductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visualising changes in 2D and 3D space• Analysing visual information in order to problem solve• Identifying and continuing patterns

Creative Comprehension (Humanities)

Subject	Creative Comprehension (Humanities)
What's being assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analysing and synthesising information from various sources• Based on subject choice, the sources provided will focus specifically on the Humanities.

Why is the entry assessment online? What type of device will students use?

Many senior schools run online assessments, which is more efficient with students' time and provides a more enjoyable experience. There is no extended typing exercise required, so typing ability will not impact results.

The entry assessment can be taken on a range of devices and we will be providing a desktop computer for all candidates for the entrance assessment online test. The device used will not make any difference to a candidates' performance.

My child is an overseas applicant. Where will they take the assessment?

Students are welcome to travel to sit the assessment at our school. If you would prefer your child to sit the assessment overseas, please contact our Admissions team to find out how to proceed. Students who are living overseas may take the assessment under exam conditions at their current school or at a test centre.

How much preparation does my child have to do for the entry assessment?

We recommend that all students look at the familiarisation materials provided. All knowledge tested in the assessment is based on skills that students will be developing in school, so they will not need any special tuition or intensive practice. Instead, they are encouraged to read widely and to practise lateral and critical thinking skills.

