

Aptitude Assessment: Questions and Answers

Q ***What do I do if I wish my child to take the Aptitude Assessment?***

A You must complete the Aptitude Assessment Form attached to this letter or available from the Academy reception, stating which day you intend to come, and include your child's name, address, home telephone number and current primary school.

Q ***Does my child have to take the Aptitude Assessment?***

A No. You can apply in the normal way for an allocated place by completing the Local Authority's Common Application Form, but in that case your application will be considered only for the allocated places.

Q ***Will the fact that my child does not take the Aptitude Assessment have any bearing on the allocated places?***

A No. Allocated places are given using the published Admissions Arrangements.

Q ***If I apply for an allocated place and am not successful, can my child then take the Aptitude Assessment?***

A No. If you wish to apply for a place based on aptitude, you must take one of the assessment opportunities at one of the stated times or mutually agreed times, prior to 31st October.

Q ***Will the result of the Aptitude Assessment be made available to parents?***

A Parents will be notified by post, prior to application, whether their child has met the minimum standard for consideration for an aptitude place. The letter will be sent by the Academy in October after the final date for the aptitude assessment. However, this is not an indication of whether your child has a place or not.

Q ***If I apply for a place based on aptitude, do I still have to fill in the Common Application Form?***

A Yes. You must complete the LA's Common Application Form. Simply taking the Aptitude Assessment is not in itself an application.

Q ***When will I know whether my application has been successful?***

A Letters to parents offering school places in Year 7 will come from the Local Authority on 1st March. A letter from the Academy will follow.

Q ***What happens if I am successful?***

A An offer letter will be sent on 1st March. The offer has to be accepted by the date indicated in the offer letter.

Q ***When will I know if my child has/has not been allocated a place based on the Aptitude Assessment?***

A You will be informed whether your child has been offered a place through aptitude on offer day by the Local Authority. You will be provided with an indication of whether your child has met the minimum standard, as published in the Academy's Arrangements, in the last week of October.

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Q *What happens if my child is unsuccessful in gaining a place either by allocation or the Aptitude Assessment route?*

A You may appeal directly to an Independent Appeal Panel. The Appeal meetings will be held in May/June.

Q *Can my child take the Aptitude Assessment a year early, or a year late?*

A Only those children who will start their secondary education outside their usual age group will be able to take the Aptitude Assessment in a different year from the one in which that age group takes the assessment. Parents will need to make a written application to vary the year of entry when they join secondary education, as set out in the Academy's admission arrangements. Because the Aptitude Assessment will take place before applications for places are open, you will need to inform the Academy of your intention to do this and discuss how to proceed with the Aptitude Assessment.

Q *What if the published Aptitude Assessment dates are not suitable?*

A Please contact the academy in order to make alternative arrangements.

Q *What if my child is physically not able to participate on the day of the Sports assessment due to illness/injury?*

A Do not start the assessment. Please contact the academy or talk to staff on the day; in such circumstances, alternative dates will be offered.

Q *What does my child need to bring to the Sport Assessment?*

A Your child should wear clothing appropriate for taking part in physical activities. This should be a plain kit (no local or national team or squad kit to be worn). For the sporting activities, they need trainers with soles which will not mark the Sports Hall floor. They may also wish to bring a bottle of water with them, too. They will also need to know their home address, home telephone number and the name of their current primary school. This may be written on a piece of paper and brought with them on the day.