



South Hampstead

High School

G D S T

11+ Admissions for September 2022 *Frequently Asked Questions*

South Hampstead High School is part of the London 11+ Consortium and we share the same 11+ admissions test. The Consortium has decided that all 11+ 2022 applicants will need to sit the Independent Schools Examinations Board (ISEB) Common Pre-Tests. We have prepared this document to answer your questions about the 11+ admissions process at South Hampstead this year and to provide you with information about the ISEB Common Pre-Tests. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Head of Admissions, Kirsty Ions: senioradmissions@shhs.gdst.net or 020 7309 6205.

How will South Hampstead assess my daughter?

There are three elements to each 11+ application. The first is the test; all applicants will be invited to sit the ISEB Common Pre-Tests. The second element is the school reference; we apply to every applicant's school in November for a reference/feedback on your daughter's social and academic progress. The third element is the interview; in January we will invite as many applicants as we can for an interview. Each element is explained in more detail below.

What are the ISEB Common Pre-Tests?

The tests are taken online and consist of four modules: verbal, non-verbal reasoning, English and Maths. They take two and a half hours to complete. They are age-standardised tests and are designed to identify potential as well as attainment. As such, the tests are accessible to pupils who have suffered disruption to their education as a result of the pandemic.

How should my daughter prepare for the test?

Practice tests are not available and no special preparation is required. However, it is important for candidates' confidence that they are familiar with the nature and style of the tests. Familiarisation materials are available on the [ISEB website](#), together with [detailed information for parents](#). As stated on the ISEB website, whilst a degree of practice may help children to build their confidence and to feel secure in what is expected of them, repeated practice is not encouraged. (NB. The ISEB website also refers to Common Entrance at 11+. Please note that this is a completely different test and is not the test we are using.)

When and where should she sit the ISEB Common Pre-Tests?

The Consortium deadline to sit the tests is **Friday 10th December 2021**. It is expected that children will take the tests in their own schools, but the Consortium will publish a calendar of dates when the tests can be accessed in Consortium schools for those children whose school is unable to host the tests. Closer to the application deadline, we will contact all South Hampstead applicants to ask for confirmation of where their daughter will sit the tests.

My daughter's school is not hosting the tests. What shall I do?

Please just let us know. Your daughter will be able to sit the tests at South Hampstead or at another London 11+ Consortium school to which she has applied.

My daughter is also applying to another school which is not in the Consortium, but which is also using the ISEB Common Pre-Tests. Where should she sit the tests?

Ideally, she should sit the tests at her current school. If this is not possible, she should sit the tests either at a Consortium school to which she has applied, or the other school to which she has applied where that school is also using the ISEB Common Pre-Tests. A candidate can only take the Common Pre-Tests once in an academic year. Having taken the tests, the candidate's results are shared with each school which registers them. If a candidate takes the tests more than once in the same academic year, the results from the first tests will be used.

We live abroad. Can our daughter take the ISEB tests abroad? What about the interview?

Yes, it is possible for candidates to take the Common Pre-Tests overseas. Please ask your daughter's current school if they can invigilate the Common Pre-Tests. If this is not possible, please contact the British Council in your country to see if they have suitable facilities nearby. If neither of these options are possible, parents will need to find an alternative venue which provides invigilation/exam services. ISEB does not allow candidates to be tested at their home, a tutor's house or anywhere which is not considered a professional venue. You will need to provide details of the venue arrangements to us and we will communicate directly with the venue in order to provide candidate login details and supporting documentation. It may be possible for us to conduct interviews online.

My daughter has special educational needs. Are the ISEB tests accessible for my daughter?

The ISEB Common Pre-Tests are accessible to all candidates with a variety of special educational needs or disabilities. Reasonable adjustments may be applied, the nature of which will depend on the candidate's specific needs. You must inform us, when making your 11+ application, about any specific needs your daughter may have. There is a section on our 11+ application form for this purpose and you must also upload a copy of any educational psychologist report. Where appropriate, candidates can be given additional time to complete each test element. Candidates requiring extra time may take the untimed/manually timed version of each test. This version does not have an on-screen timer.

Do I need to register my daughter with ISEB?

No, as candidates are registered by the school to which they apply, **parents should not register their daughter for the Common Pre-Tests themselves.** Please proceed as usual to make your application to each school for which you would like your daughter to be considered, even if more than one school to which you are applying is using the ISEB Common Pre-Tests this year.

What is South Hampstead looking for?

South Hampstead is an academically selective school and we are looking for pupils who will thrive in a scholarly environment. We understand that our 11+ applicants are young and their education will have been disrupted by the pandemic. We are looking for potential: curious pupils who will take advantage of the opportunities on offer at South Hampstead.

When will I hear if my daughter is invited for an interview?

We will contact you in January 2022 to confirm whether we are able to invite your daughter for an interview. We will invite as many applicants as we can for an interview; we are unable to invite all applicants. The interview will be in person at South Hampstead in January; we will confirm the date in due course by email to all applicants. All updates will also be published on our website:

<https://www.shhs.gdst.net/admissions/joining-the-senior-school/entry-at-11/>

How will Music and Sports Scholarships be assessed?

Music auditions and sports assessments will be held in January. If your daughter is invited for a Music Scholarship audition, she will have her academic interview on the same day. The date for our Sports Scholarship assessment is to be confirmed.

Can we visit South Hampstead at the moment?

Yes, we hope to host a number of 11+ open mornings in the Autumn Term, dependent on the pandemic regulations in place at the time. These events will take place from 8.45am to 10am and involve talks from the Headmistress, Mrs Bingham, our Head Girl, and a Q&A session, as well as a pupil-led tour of the school. Dates will be available for booking on our website from mid-June: <https://www.shhs.gdst.net/admissions/joining-the-senior-school/open-days/>.

When will I hear if my daughter has been offered a place?

Offers will be made on **Friday 11th February 2022**. The deadline to accept is **Monday 7th March 2022 at 12 noon**.

What shall I do next?

Make sure you have applied to South Hampstead online by **Friday 12th November 2021** - <https://www.shhs.gdst.net/admissions/joining-the-senior-school/entry-at-11/>. By this date you must have paid the registration fee* (either by bank transfer or credit card) and, if applicable, registered for a Music or Sports Scholarship and/or a bursary (**the registration fee can be waived for bursary candidates – please share evidence of income support*). We will then contact your daughter's current school to check if they are able to host the ISEB Common Pre-Tests. If they are offering the tests, your daughter should sit the tests at her current school at the earliest date available. If her current school cannot host the tests, we will contact you to see if your daughter will be sitting the tests elsewhere or if she needs to sit the tests at South Hampstead.

We appreciate there is a lot of information to digest, so please don't hesitate to contact our Head of Admissions, Kirsty Ions, if you have any further queries: [**senioradmissions@shhs.gdst.net**](mailto:senioradmissions@shhs.gdst.net) or **020 7309 6205**

Headmistress

Mrs Victoria Bingham
MA (Oxon)

Junior School

5 Netherhall Gardens,
London NW3 5RN
020 7794 7198
junior@shhs.gdst.net

Senior School

3 Maresfield Gardens,
London NW3 5SS
020 7435 2899
senior@shhs.gdst.net

www.shhs.gdst.net

The Girls' Day School Trust is a limited company registered in England whose registered number is 6400 and whose registered office is 10 Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DH. Registered charity number is 306983. www.gdst.net