



South Hampstead

High School

G D S T

11+ Admissions for September 2023

Frequently Asked Questions

South Hampstead High School is part of the London 11+ Consortium and we share the same 11+ admissions exam. We have prepared this document to answer your questions about the 11+ admissions process at South Hampstead and to provide you with information about the Consortium exam. 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 exam; all applicants will be invited to sit the Consortium exam provided by ATOM Learning. The second element is the school reference; we apply to every applicant's school in late 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 is the Consortium exam?

The exam is taken online and consists of five modules: (1) Maths (20 minutes), (2) non-verbal reasoning (10 minutes), (3) English comprehension and verbal reasoning (30 minutes), (4) problem solving (15 minutes) and (5) an analysis component. The first three parts of the exam are adaptive and are designed to identify potential as well as attainment. After a short break of 30 minutes, candidates take the final two parts of the exam, which are non-adaptive. Detailed information about the exam can be found in the Code of Practice & FAQs on the [London 11+ Consortium website](#).

How should my daughter prepare for the exam?

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 exam. [Familiarisation material](#) is available on the Consortium 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.

When and where should she sit the Consortium exam?

All candidates will need to sit the exam on one of three dates: **Friday 2nd December 2022, Tuesday 6th December 2022 or Thursday 8th December 2022**. It is expected that children will take the exam in their own schools. Candidates whose school is unable to host the exam will be able to sit the exam on one of these dates at a Consortium school to which they have applied. We will ask all South Hampstead applicants to confirm where they will sit the exam. This must be either (1) at their current school or (2) at another Consortium school **to which they have applied**. The location at which the candidate sits the exam has no bearing on the outcome of her application.

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

Please just let us know. Your daughter will be able to sit the exam at South Hampstead, or at another London 11+ Consortium school to which she has applied, on one of 2nd, 6th or 8th December.

We live abroad. Can our daughter take the Consortium exam abroad? What about the interview?

Yes, it is possible for candidates to take the Consortium exam overseas. Please ask your daughter's current school if they can invigilate the exam. 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. The Consortium 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. Is the Consortium exam accessible for my daughter?

The Consortium exam is 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. Please inform us in good time before the application deadline of any special educational needs. We will need time to consider the documents you provide to us in order to confirm what access arrangements, if any, your daughter may be entitled to have.

Do I need to register my daughter with the exam provider?

No, as candidates are registered by the school to which they apply, **parents should not register their daughter for the Consortium exam.** Please proceed as usual to make your application to each school for which you would like your daughter to be considered.

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 2023 to confirm whether we are able to invite your daughter for an interview. The interview will be in person at South Hampstead on Wednesday 18th January 2023.

How will Music and Sports Scholarships be assessed?

Music auditions and sports assessments will be held on Wednesday 18th January 2023. If your daughter is invited for a Music Scholarship audition or a Sports Scholarship assessment, she will also have her academic interview on the same day.

Can we visit South Hampstead?

Yes, we are holding a number of 11+ open mornings in the Autumn Term which are for 11+ 2023 applicants only and their families (maximum of two parents or carers, with the 11+ candidate). These events will take place from 8.45am to 10.15am 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. Please book online: <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 10th February 2023. The deadline to accept is Monday 6th March 2023 at 12 noon.

What shall I do next?

Make sure you have applied to South Hampstead online by **noon on Friday 11th November 2022** - <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 Consortium exam. If they are offering the exam, your daughter should sit the exam at her current school on one of the three specified dates. If her current school cannot host the exam, your daughter will need to sit the exam at a Consortium school to which she has applied.

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:

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