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For more information on Pate's Grammar School:

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2020 Admissions (Frequently asked questions)

How does my child gain admission to Pate's Grammar School?

Pate's Grammar School is a selective school. To gain a place your child must first sit and achieve the qualifying standard in the Grammar School Entrance Test. For 2020 entry, the test will be held on Saturday 14th September 2019.

Do I need to register for the test?

You will need to register using the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools Central Registration Form. There will be a link for this on our website www.patesgs.org/admissions. The registration will be online from 1st June 2019 until 30th June 2019. It does not make any difference where your child sits the test – it is the same test on the same day at the seven Grammar Schools in Gloucestershire. You only need to register once and then tick on the online registration where you would like the test results shared.

It is preferable for you to register online and all communication can then be sent by email. However, paper registration is available from the school by request. Once you have registered, as we approach the date of the test you will be sent details of timings of the day and what your child should bring.

What is the format of the test?

The test consists of multiple choice style questions on verbal ability (comprehension, vocabulary and verbal reasoning), numerical reasoning and non-verbal reasoning. There are two papers each lasting approximately one hour which includes instructions and some worked examples. There will be a break between the papers.

Why has the test been changed?

The seven Gloucestershire Grammar Schools were concerned by the amount of tutoring. CEM are one of the largest independent providers of educational assessment and monitoring systems in the world. They have been developing selection assessments since 1999, and provide tests for a number of grammar schools in other counties. CEM design their tests to enable all children to demonstrate their academic potential without excessive preparation.

Is it possible to obtain some practice papers/sample questions beforehand?

A familiarisation booklet is on the school website with examples of the sorts of questions used in the test. CEM does not produce commercially available practice materials. Please be aware that materials sold on the internet or provided by tutors, other than CEM familiarisation and practice materials, are not genuine CEM samples.

How should my child prepare for the test?

Beyond the familiarisation material, the best preparation for the tests is to read books and use mathematics on a regular basis.

When will I get the results?

The results will be available by the middle of October 2019. The length of time between the test and the result is longer than in previous years but the results are published in good time for you to be able to complete the Local Authority's Common Application Form.

Can other test data be taken into account?

No. SATs, CATs, 11+ tests from other areas, music tests, cannot be considered. Entry is based entirely on the entrance test.

What if my child is ill on test day?

Please contact the Testing school as soon as possible to let them know. In exceptional circumstances and with medical evidence a late test may be possible. Please refer to Pate's Grammar School Admissions Policy for further details.

What about siblings?

Sibling connections are not considered at all. It is purely down to the test.

Can I come on a tour of the school with my child?

Children who achieve the qualifying standard will be invited back to the school after the results are sent out so that they can have another look and ask any further questions they may have.

If my child reaches the qualifying standard how do I apply for a place at Pate's Grammar School?

If your child meets the qualifying standard you will be informed and can apply for a place at Pate's by completing the Local Authority's Common Application Form (CAF) for allocation of school places. The deadline for this is usually 31st October.

Key dates:

Register to sit the Entrance Test	From 12.00pm on 1 st June 2019 to 12.00pm on 30 th June 2019
Receive Information/arrangements for the test	By Friday 6 th September 2019*
Entrance Test	Saturday 14 th September 2019
Results	By Monday 14 th October 2019*
Local Authority 'Common Application Form' deadline	31 st October 2019
Local Authority Allocation Day	2 nd March 2020*
Local Authority acceptance of place OR request to be put on waiting list deadline	9 th March 2020*
Local Authority notifies parents with outcome of their waiting list request	After 30 th March 2020*

Dates marked with a * are provisional and may change.

The dates for Open Evenings / Mornings are published on our website.