

About the FSCE Entrance Test for Year 7 Entry

The Gloucestershire Grammar Schools are committed to providing a fair and rigorous selection process for prospective students. As part of this commitment, we have adopted the Future Stories Community Enterprise Ltd (FSCE) Test as our Year 7 Entrance Test.

Why FSCE?

FSCE's main goal is to make Grammar School testing more accessible for all children: regardless of primary school, socio-economic background and/or disability. The FSCE Entrance Test is a modern and inclusive entrance test developed and reviewed in collaboration with experienced educators. It is designed to assess a child's academic ability in the most holistic manner permissible, rather than just through rote learning. The Test is designed to ensure all children have an equal opportunity to succeed and showcase their academic ability.

In focussing solely on areas of the KS2 National Curriculum that have been taught up to the end of Year 5, the Test aims to remove any need for tutoring. Instead, it emphasises the excellent work that children do at primary school and explores a child's innate ability, curiosity and problem-solving skills.

What is the FSCE Entrance Test?

The Test evaluates application of knowledge and skills from KS2 subjects taught up to and including the Year 5 programme of study and as such there is no element of the Test that should surprise, trouble or intimidate candidates. Subjects may include any of the following: Art & Design, Languages, Computing, Mathematics, Design & Technology, Music, English, Physical Education, Geography, Science and History.

The Test consists of both multiple-choice and written response questions. Further information, including sample test questions, can be found in the Familiarisation Guides on each of the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools' websites.

The Entrance Test content changes each year therefore the Familiarisation Guide is NOT definitive and the inclusion of any question types does NOT guarantee that they will be found in the actual test.

All papers are marked by computer and age-standardised.

How to Prepare

We suggest you print the Familiarisation Guide and read it through carefully. The FSCE Test does not require specialist tutoring, and no specific preparation is necessary. No teacher, tutor or parent will have knowledge of the test that others lack. Instead, we encourage children to:

- Work well at primary school, with maximum attendance and engagement in all areas of school life;
- Develop strong reading habits by reading widely and deeply;
- Practise the fluency of their maths and problem-solving skills through real life day to day examples;
- Engage in imaginative and critical thinking discussions around the dinner table;
- Focus on calmness and confidence rather than pressure and stress;
- Trust that they already have the knowledge required to access the questions.

Please note – a child may only take the test once. All written elements will be tested on one day and will take place at one of the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools.

Key Dates

- **Registration Opens:** Monday 8 February 2027 (12 noon)
- **Application Deadline:** Friday 19 March 2027 (12 noon)
- **Testing Date:** Saturday 3 July 2027
- **Results:** October 2027