# MOVING UP TO SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2019



### **GL** Assessment – Admissions

- Over 35 years' experience
- Provider to many schools and authorities
- Question bank of Verbal, Non-Verbal, Spatial, Mathematics and English items
- Production team
- In-house statistical expertise



# **The Secondary Transfer Test**

- The Secondary Transfer Test is a test to determine whether or not a child is suited to a grammar school.
- The 2019 entry test is produced by GL Assessment
- Buckinghamshire County Council undertake the administration on behalf of the 13 grammar schools



# What does the Secondary Transfer Test measure?

Verbal Skills Includes English and verbal

reasoning

Mathematical Skills Includes various areas of

mathematics

Non-Verbal Skills Includes non-verbal and

spatial reasoning



# Verbal reasoning question example

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

The alphabet is here to help you with these questions. You need to work out a different code for each question. Choose the correct answer and mark it on the answer sheet.

#### **Example**

If the code for FOOT is ENNS, what is the code for TOE?

Answer a. VPF b. DNS c. SNE d. SND e. FNE



# **English question example**

In these sentences there are some spelling mistakes. On each numbered line there is either one mistake or no mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter on your answer sheet. If there is no mistake, mark N.

I recieved an elaborate invitation to an exclusive party next week.

A

B

C

T

D



# Mathematical question example



stands for 12 ships.

Look at this table.

Dock	Number of Ships
Α	
В	4
С	$\triangleleft$

How many more ships are in dock A than dock C?

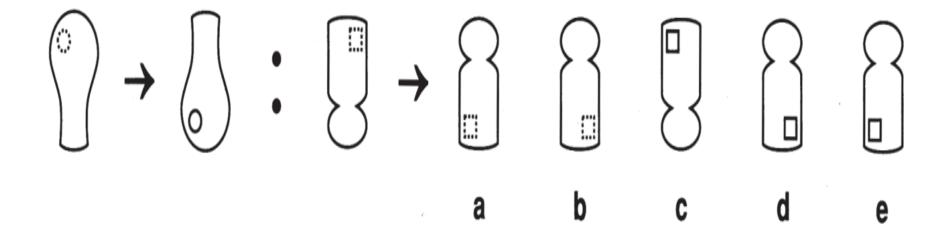
A 0.5

**B** 1 C 3

E 6



# Non-verbal question example





# Coaching

Primary schools that undertake testing on behalf of the grammar schools are asked not to tutor or coach for the children in their school prior to the test over and above enabling the children to follow the national curriculum relevant for their age.



# Coaching materials

The Secondary Transfer Test is designed to enable all children to demonstrate their academic potential. Free familiarisation materials will be provided for children to use at home. Tutoring is not required or recommended.



# Timeline

What	When
Familiarisation Materials	By end of summer term
Practice Test	11 September 2018
Secondary Transfer Test	13 September 2018
Results published	12 October 2018
Application deadline	31 October 2018 – 3pm
School place offers	1 March 2019
Start secondary school	September 2019



#### **Bucks Familiarisation Materials**

Printed booklet to every Bucks child along with downloadable pdf

#### Explains:

- what the test papers and answer sheets will look like
- how the answer sheets should be completed

#### Includes:

example questions with answers

#### It will not be looked at in school



### Other Available Familiarisation

- GL Assessment provide free familiarisation on their website:
- https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/free-familiarisation
- Link only can be put onto schools' websites



## **Test logistics**

- Tamper proof bags
- Spare materials
- Enlarged materials
- Declaration of Use
- Returning materials



## Practice Test - 11 September

- Two papers with a break
- Exam conditions
- 35 minutes each paper
- CD/mp3 instructions
- Paper 1 Verbal Skills
- Paper 2 Mathematical and Non-Verbal Skills
- Not marked



# The Secondary Transfer Test 13 September

- Two papers
- Both papers taken on the same day
- Short 15 minute gap between the papers
- Each paper about an hour in total
- Sitting the practice test strongly recommended



# Marking

- Machine marked (scanned)
- One mark is given for each correct answer
- Each pupil will have three raw scores
  - verbal skills
  - mathematical skills
  - non-verbal skills



# Standardisation and Weighting

- Three raw scores
- Each is age standardised
- Weighted and combined to produce an overall result Secondary Transfer Test Score (STTS)
- Tailored results letter according to result



# Weighting

#### Each score is weighted as follows:

- Verbal 50% of the STTS (Secondary Transfer Test Score)
- Mathematical 25% of the STTS
- Non-verbal 25% of the STTS



# Range and Qualifying Scores

 The qualifying
 The range of score is

scores is between

121

0 and 200+



#### **More information:**

- 'Moving up to Secondary School' leaflet
- Schools' websites
- TBGS website

https://www.thebucksgrammarschools.org/

School open evenings- dates:

See School Directory in 'Find My Child a School Place'

https://services.buckscc.gov.uk/school-admissions/schools

From May 2018 more information in the Guide will be available at:

www.buckscc.gov.uk/movinguptosecondaryschool

