

Selective High School Placement Test 2021 for entry to Year 7 in 2022

Test information for parents and students

When will the test be held?

The test will be held on **Thursday 11 March 2021 at 9.00am** at the allocated test centre. Signs will show you which entrance to use.

How long does the test take?

Parents must drop students off at the entrance to the test centre by **9.00am** and return promptly at **1.30pm** to pick them up.

There is a short rest break after the first test, a longer break after the second test when students can eat the food they bring, and a short rest break after the third test.

The finish time may vary according to the size of the test centre and its facilities. There is no supervision for students before 8:30am. If the test finishes early, students will be supervised. Please do not be late to collect your child after the test.

Dropping off and collecting your child

Test day is a regular school day for the test school so it is important to avoid disruption to staff and students at the school.

Do not park in or near the school grounds and observe any instructions from the school about parking restrictions. Signs will direct you to the entrance to use.

As parents will not be allowed on school grounds you will need to take your child to the designated entrance and a supervisor will meet students there. Please give anaphylaxis kits or other approved equipment to that supervisor. Collect your child from the same entrance after the test. The only exception is where a parent has prior written authority to attend for medical reasons.

If you arrange for your child to be collected by someone else or to walk to school or home, you must send a note with your child giving permission and accepting responsibility for your child's safety.

What if something goes wrong?

If something occurs to prevent your child attending the test or doing his or her best in the test, you can submit a request for consideration of illness or misadventure by 18 March 2021. You will need to get a medical certificate and independent evidence of illness covering the day if the problem is medical, or other relevant evidence if it is not about illness or injury.

Go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test/illness-or-misadventure> for more information about submitting an illness/misadventure request.

If your child arrives late there will be no extra time given.

Hygiene precautions

Wearing of masks and using hand sanitiser is permitted if you wish your child to do so. The presiding officer and supervisors will be observing hygiene requirements in place for NSW schools.

Please do not bring your child to the test if he or she is ill with respiratory disease. Presiding officers may not admit a student if they consider others in the test centre to be at risk from contagious disease.

What should students wear to the test?

Students should wear school uniform, including a jumper and a hat for the break.

What to bring to the test

Students must bring a printed copy of their 'Test authority letter' that shows their application number.

Students may bring a wristwatch that does **not** make a noise or calculate, communicate or photograph.

Students SHOULD bring:	Students SHOULD NOT bring:
Glasses, asthma inhaler (and spacer) and tissues if required. Other equipment and medical devices that have been approved before the test	Pens, pencil cases, erasers, rulers, note paper or other material such as dictionaries or books. Pencils and erasers will be supplied.
Clear plastic water bottle – with no writing on it except for the brand name (to be stored under the seat to avoid spills)	Equipment such as calculators, computers, mobile phones, computer watches, watches that calculate or beep, or any device that calculates, photographs or communicates
A substantial snack to eat during the break as lunch will be late, especially if the test is delayed.	Snacks containing nuts or nut products.

For further information go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test>.

Tips for students

The test is designed to show your ability so there is no particular material to study before the test. You'll use your knowledge and skills to answer challenging questions.

Sample tests

You can see the types of questions that may be asked, and the explanation of answers, in the sample tests at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test>. Practise answering the questions using the sample answer sheet.

On test day

- Go to the toilet before you leave home.
- You will be met at the school entrance by a supervisor who will show you where to go to line up with your school group.
- Pay attention and follow all instructions from the presiding officer and supervisors at all times.
- Put your hand up if you have a problem or a question or if you need to go to the toilet.
- Don't talk to other students once you enter the test room.
- In the test room you will sit at the desk which has a sheet showing your name and other personal details.
- There will be a short rest break after the first and third tests and a longer break after the second test, when you will go outside and eat food you have brought.

The tests

There are four tests. They will be done in this order:

Reading	40 minutes	30 multiple choice questions
Mathematical reasoning	40 minutes	35 multiple choice questions
Thinking skills	40 minutes	40 multiple choice questions
Writing	30 minutes	1 question

During the test

Listen carefully to instructions.

Put your hand up if you have any problems or any questions at any time.

You will be asked to copy your name and application number onto all of your test papers.

Answer sheets

Read each test question carefully before you start answering it. Think about what it asks you to do. Choose the answer that you think is best.

<p>Answer questions on the answer sheet by using the pencil to shade in the circle clearly underneath the option you choose.</p> <p>If you change your mind about the answer, rub it out thoroughly and show your new answer clearly.</p> <p>Keep checking that the number of the question you are working on in the question booklet is the same as the number you are shading on the answer sheet.</p> <p>If you find you are answering a question at the wrong place, put your hand up and tell a supervisor. The supervisor will record the question numbers affected. Start the next question at the correct place and come back to fix the problem later if you have time, changing one question at a time.</p>	<p>1 A B C D E ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</p> <p>2 A B C D E ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</p>
---	---

Print off a sample answer sheet to use for practice at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test>

Make sure you show your answers on the answer sheet. Answers recorded in the question booklet cannot be marked. Answer in the question booklet only if you have been given permission to do so and if so, you will have separate instructions.

Marks are not taken off for wrong answers. Incorrect, double or blank answers score zero. It is better to have a guess rather than leave an answer blank as this helps you make sure you are answering on the correct line.

If you want to work anything out in the multiple-choice tests you can write on the question booklet or on the back of the sheet with your personal details on it. For the writing test there is a page for planning in the question booklet that you can use if you wish. Any notes that you have made in the question booklet or on the writing planning page or personal details sheet will not be marked.

In the writing test you must write only about the question you are given. The question will ask you to write for a particular purpose and audience. Markers will pay attention to creative ideas, the structure of the writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation as well as effectiveness for the purpose and audience.

Timing

Use your time wisely. Work steadily. If you find a question too difficult, do not spend a long time on it. Shade in the answer you think is best and come back to that question later if you have time.

There will be no time warnings during the test. You will need to check the test centre's official clock to find out how much time you have left. Put your hand up if you cannot see it clearly.

Test conditions

If suspected of cheating you risk having the test marks not counted. Please make sure you:

- do not open the question booklet until the presiding officer tells you to do so
- do not look at the work of others during the test
- do not talk to other students while in the test room
- do not keep writing after you are told to stop.

Good advice

Get a good night's sleep the night before the test and try to keep calm. It's normal to feel nervous about a test. If you can relax, you will have a better chance to think clearly and do your best.