**11+ (Year 7) Examinations – Guidance for Parents and Teachers**

**Guidance for Mathematics**

**What is in the examination?**

* The mathematics examination is one hour and fifteen minutes long.
* The content of the papers in all areas will be based on the assumption that candidates are working towards a standard which is at least at level 5 in the *existing* Mathematics National Curriculum. Girls who are being taught using the *new* maths curriculum will not be disadvantaged.
* There are several sample papers on each school’s website giving an indication of the type of questions which will appear in the January 2016 papers.
* There will be a variety of questions testing basic numerical skills, problem solving and logical thinking.
* Girls may also be required to demonstrate more developed powers of reasoning and the ability to solve simple problems with a newly introduced concept.
* The questions will not necessarily become harder towards the end of the paper. Girls should therefore be encouraged not to spend too long on any question, but should move on to later questions and return to earlier ones if they have time.
* Girls need only a pencil and a rubber for the examination.
* Calculators and rulers are not allowed in the examination.

**What are we looking for?**

We are looking for evidence that a girl:

* Has a sound grasp of basic mathematical skills
* Has the ability to complete mathematical tasks logically.
* Has the understanding to solve mathematical problems.

**How can girls prepare for the examination?**

* Girls need to be able to show their ability with basic skills, but it is also important that they know how to use these skills to solve problems. Practice with word or diagram-based questions should be encouraged.
* It is recommended that girls are aware of the type of questions they will be facing as shown in the past papers, which are available on each school’s website.
* Girls should be encouraged to check their work for accuracy and to show their working when completing mathematical tasks.

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