PARENTAL GUIDE

SURBITON

HIGH SCHOOL



Parental Guide to the November 2026 Entrance Examination at Surbiton High School for Year 7 September 2027



This guide provides an overview of the process of taking the Surbiton High School Entrance Exam.

Alongside this guide you will have also received specific instructions regarding the timing of your daughter's Entrance Exam.

Please ensure that your daughter arrives promptly at her allocated time and location indicated on the email dated 13 November 2026.

Entrance Exam Overview

Our Entrance Examination tests a candidate's ability in English and Maths. The assessments are designed to test National Curriculum content from Year 5 and the Autumn Term of Year 6.

The Maths assessment and part of the English assessment will be conducted online. All pupils will be provided with an iPad to complete the assessments.

There will also be a short, hand-written creative writing assessment that forms part of the English assessment.

All candidates will sit their assessment in the following order:

1. Maths	**30-minute assessment, online, adaptive**
2. English	**30-minute assessment, online, non-adaptive**
3. English	**20-minute creative writing assessment, handwritten**

When your daughter is settled into her exam room she will be provided with her unique access code which she will be supported in entering into the exam website.

Before each online assessment, pupils will practise using the online platform using a set of three questions. The practice questions are not timed and do not form part of the assessment.

The invigilator will check everyone has completed the practice Maths questions at which point the assessment will commence and pupils will complete the online Maths assessment.

Once everyone has completed the Maths assessment, they will be guided by their invigilator to commence the online English practise questions and subsequently the online English assessment. Candidates will be given a paper copy of the extract used in the online test, and the extract will also appear on the iPad screen at all times. Candidates may annotate their paper copy as much as they like; this will not be collected in at the end, it is purely for their own working.

The majority of online questions are multiple-choice; candidates will need to select an answer option and click 'next' to move on to the next question. A small number of questions may require candidates to type single words or numbers.

Please note that for Maths it is not possible for pupils to return to a question; once they have clicked 'next' they cannot go back and change an answer. This will be made very clear to all the candidates before they start the assessments.

Working/note paper will be provided to all candidates but will not be collected in for marking. It is purely there to aid candidates during the assessments. It is strongly advised that pupils use the paper and pencils provided in their Maths assessment to help with any working out.

Adaptive Questions

One of the benefits of the online assessment is that it is adaptative. This means questions will alter according to how easy or difficult a candidate finds them; candidates should therefore all feel they haven't found the assessments too hard or easy when they have completed it.

Creative Writing Assessment



Hard copies of the Creative Writing paper will be handed out once all candidates have finished their online English assessment.

The Creative Writing assessment will be based around the extract used in the online test and they will keep their paper copy of this extract for use with their creative writing.

Timing



All candidates will start each assessment at the same time. Some candidates may finish earlier owing to the speed at which they have completed the test. If a candidate finishes early, they will be informed at the start of the assessment that they can pick up their reading book until everyone has finished.

During the assessment, there is a timer on each candidate's iPad which will show candidates how long they have left in that assessment.

Extra Time

Where we have confirmed that candidates will receive additional time due to a specific learning need, they will be allocated the time in all aspects of the entrance exam. The additional time will be built into the online test.

Test Familiarisation

We would recommend that your daughter views the short familiarisation exercise prior to the Entrance Exam. This can be found **here**.

Breaks

Please note, there won't be a break between assessments as they are so short. Candidates will be invited to go to the toilet prior to the assessments commencing.

Please recommend to your daughter that she doesn't go for a toilet break during the exam, unless absolutely necessary; we will not be able to pause the assessments during toilet breaks.

On the Day

Your daughter will need to arrive at her allocated building, at the allocated time. She will then be escorted to a classroom by a member of staff.

Please ensure you arrive promptly at the time stipulated in your email called **'Surbiton High School - Year 7 2027 Entrance Exam Information'.**

The drop-off and collection location will be in the same building. There will be refreshments available at collection.

Please note we have two different drop-off and collection locations and three different start and end times. This means your Entrance Exam Day Information email will be bespoke to your daughter.

There are various parking locations locally in public car parks and street parking. Please refer to the map for locations. Please allow plenty of time for parking due to roadworks outside the School.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do you have sample papers?

When you registered you will have been sent English and Maths guidance papers to provide your daughter with an idea of the questions being asked. You can also find it **here**.

2. What is being assessed?

Both the Maths and English assessments are based on the National Curriculum. The Maths questions will test a candidate's understanding of arithmetic, mathematical reasoning, and problem-solving. The English assessment will test reading and analysis of a text and spelling, punctuation, and grammar; the Creative Writing assessment will test a candidate's ability to express their creative thoughts through language.

3. How long is the Entrance Exam?

Each online assessment is 30 minutes. There is also a short practise test before each online section for candidates to familiarise themselves with the online platform.

The Creative Writing section is also 20 minutes and will be hand-written.

4. What does my daughter need to wear?

We want your daughter to feel as comfortable as possible, so she can wear whatever she would like. However, she may find she concentrates better if she is wearing her school uniform.

5. What happens if my child is sick on the day?

Please email **admissions@surbitonhigh.com** as early as possible and we will arrange for her to sit on our alternate day.

6. What does my daughter need to bring?

She should bring with her a reading book, a water bottle, and any medication that she may need to keep on her (e.g. inhaler etc). She also needs to bring a clear pencil case that contains a pencil, pen (blue or black biro) and rubber and ruler. This is only for rough work and writing the Creative Writing section. Calculators and other mathematical equipment are not needed.

7. What happens if there are technical problems?

If there are any technical problems, the invigilator in each room will be able to get help; we will initially pause the individual candidate's test so that your daughter doesn't lose any time due to a technical issue. We have trialled the test extensively with very positive outcomes.

8. Can my daughter go to the toilet during the exam?

Yes, she can, however as with all exams, we would advise that she waits until the end of the exam otherwise she will miss time during the short assessment when she could be answering questions.

9. What happens after the Entrance Exam?

All candidates will be invited to book an interview as part of the second stage of the process. Interviews will take place from week commencing 30 November 2026 through to early January.

Final outcomes will be emailed by Friday 29 January 2027 with the scholarship and bursary outcomes following in the post.

If you have any queries that have not been answered here, please email **admissions@surbitonhigh.com** or call 020 8439 1309.

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An independent school for boys aged 3 - 11 and girls aged 3 - 18

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