



Newstead Wood School

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the school's designated area?

The designated area for the school is 9 miles from the school gates. The distance can be checked using postcodes on <https://www.freemaptools.com/distance-between-uk-postcodes.htm>. The school postcode is BR6 9SA. A map displaying the catchment area is located outside the Head Teacher's office.

2. How do students get to and from school?

Orpington Station is well served by local bus routes. The school is 10 minutes walk from the station. For further details:

Bus routes – <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/tfl/gettingaround/maps/buses/pdf/orpington-2198.pdf>

Train routes – <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

3. What is the Supplementary Information Form (SIF)?

For entry into Y7 in September 2020 you must also complete Newstead Wood's Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which can be downloaded from our website during the spring term of 2019. The SIF must be returned to the school between **29th April 2019 and 24th May 2019**. Registration to sit the tests is done by completing the SIF.

For entry into Y7 in September 2019 the closing date for submission of the SIF has now passed. If you have missed the closing date and not yet completed a SIF please email admissions@newsteadwood.co.uk explaining your circumstances. Each case will be viewed individually to see if the school is able to help.

4. What is the Common Application Form (CAF)?

You must complete your LA's Common Application Form (CAF), placing Newstead Wood School as one of your preferences. This must be returned to your own LA by the stipulated date. Schools do not know their position in the CAF list of your preferences. Your Local Authority will offer the highest possible choice on your Common Application Form. *We are unable to enter into discussion on this point or offer any further advice as to how you should complete the CAF.*

5. When are the entrance tests?

The entrance tests for 2019 entry will take place on **Friday 28th September 2018** at the school. There are two sessions, one starting at 8.15am, and one starting at 11.45am.

The date of, and arrangements for, the entrance test for 2020 entry will be made available on our website in February 2019.

If your daughter has a chronic medical condition, disability, Special Educational Need or any other difficulty which may require special arrangements to be made for her during the tests, then please ensure that full details are provided with the SIF.

6. What happens on the day?

We do all we can to make the girls comfortable. Girls sit the tests in groups in classrooms around the school, with a short break in between. The tests will not start until invigilators are confident all instructions have been understood.

7. What can you tell me about the examination for 2019 entry?

- There are two papers, one in verbal reasoning and one in non-verbal reasoning.
- The verbal reasoning paper lasts 45 minutes. The non-verbal reasoning paper is divided into four 10 minute sections. Students cannot return to a section once the 10 minutes allowed for it has passed.
- Once marked the scores for the test are adjusted to reflect age weighting. This is done by an external company.
- All marks are placed in rank order. Parents will be informed of their daughter's score along with historical information on the cut-off score from the past five years. Parents will also be informed as to which group of the oversubscription criterion applies to their daughter. **It should be noted that providing this information does not equate to a guarantee of a place at the school.**
- Offers are made by the Local Authority until 160 places have been filled. The 'cut-off' mark thus varies from year to year.
- In the event of a tie the highest non-verbal score will be offered a place.
- Sample papers are available to purchase on Open Day.

In the interest of fairness, and as the test is set by an external provider, there is only a limited amount of information we can provide about the Entrance tests.

8. Where can I find out about Sixth Form Entry?

Every year we invite applications from students interested in joining our mixed Sixth Form. Our Sixth Form Open Evening takes place on **Tuesday 6th November 2018**, when details of our provision for September 2019 will be available. Anyone interested in further information about our Sixth Form should contact our Director of Sixth Form, Mrs Smith.