



11+ ENTRANCE EXAMINATION SYLLABUS

Entry to Alley's is primarily academically selective by examination and then interview. There are up to three stages to the 11+ process. With the exception of candidates residing overseas, all candidates will visit Alley's for assessment.

Stage 1: Entrance examinations in English, Mathematics and Reasoning

English (45 mins)

It is essential that time is managed carefully and we suggest 10 minutes for **reading** and 35 minutes for completing the tasks. Candidates must write in black or blue pen/biro (**not** pencil).

The examination consists of some multiple-choice comprehension questions and a directed writing task. Answers for this section are marked in pencil on a pre-printed multiple-choice answer sheet where the selected answer is marked in the correct box. For example, see below.

	A	B	C	D
Q1	X			
Q2			X	
Q3		X		

In the written task, candidates will be asked to produce a narrative or descriptive response that continues the reading passage. Evidence of detailed comprehension, clarity, fluency and accuracy of written expression are assessed; imaginative and linguistic flair will also be rewarded.

Mathematics (30 minutes)

Candidates should bring pen, pencil, ruler and eraser to the examination; calculators are not needed.

The examination is largely set on the National Curriculum topics listed below. The final questions on the paper are harder, extension questions and are self-explanatory.

Number and algebra

- Understand place value.
- Find factors and multiples of numbers.
- Using factor pairs.
- Recognise prime numbers and square numbers.
- Understand square and cube numbers.
- Order, add and subtract negative numbers.
- Use all four operations with decimals to two places.
- Reduce a fraction to its simplest form by cancelling.
- Compare and order fractions greater than 1
- Long division.

- Add, subtract and place fractions in order using common denominators.
- Add and subtract proper fractions and mixed numbers
- Multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers
- Understand and use order of operations.
- Solve simple problems involving ratio and direct proportion.
- Write percentages as fractions; fractions as decimals.
- Find simple percentages of whole numbers in context.
- Calculate fractions of shapes and quantities.
- Solve problems that involve multiplying and dividing any three-digit number by any two-digit number.
- Check solutions by applying inverse operations or estimate answers using approximations.
- Construct and use simple formulae.
- Use brackets appropriately.
- Use and interpret coordinates in all four quadrants.
- Convert metric units.
- Convert between miles and kilometres.
- Read scales, including analogue and digital clocks.
- Work with units of time (seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks).

- Solve problems in context, e.g. money.
- Use letters to represent unknowns.
- Generate and describe linear sequences.

Shape, space and measures

- Measure and draw angles to the nearest degree.
- Know the sum of angles in a triangle, sum of angles on a line and sum of angles at a point.
- Identify all the symmetries of 2D shapes.
- Plot points in all 4 quadrants.
- Make sensible estimates of a range of measures in relation to everyday situations.
- Solve simple problems involving speed, distance, time.
- Finding area/perimeter of compound shapes.
- Use formulae for area/volume of shapes.
- Calculate areas of triangles and parallelograms.
- Calculate the volume of 3D shapes.
- Names radius/diameter and know relationship.
- Reflection and translation of shapes.

Handling data

- Interpret graphs and diagrams, including pie charts.
- Calculate and interpret the mean as an average.

Decimal Separators: The symbol used to separate the integer part of a decimal from its fractional part is called the decimal point. Candidates from overseas should be aware that in Britain the decimal point is denoted by a period (eg 31.241). In some countries the notation is different: for example, many European countries use a comma in place of the decimal point (e.g. 31,241). Candidates are expected to be aware of the British system for decimal points and should note that questions will be set in this style; however, the candidate's own answer may be written in the style that is familiar to them.

Verbal, Non-Verbal & Spatial Reasoning Test (multiple-choice) (45 minutes)

Verbal Reasoning tests mainly involve reasoning with words and typically include a variety of question types that involve the production of, use of, and relations between, words.

Non-Verbal Reasoning tests involve reasoning with abstract figures. Some questions, for example, might look at relationships between shapes and sequences of shapes, by identifying common features from a set of figures and applying them to a new figure.

Spatial Reasoning tests are similar to non-verbal reasoning tests in that they involve reasoning with abstract figures. Spatial Reasoning question types typically involve the mental creation, retention and manipulation of visual images.

Answers are marked in pencil on a pre-printed multiple-choice answer sheet where the selected answer is marked in the correct box. For example, see below.

	A	B	C	D
Q1	X			
Q2			X	
Q3		X		

Any commercial or freely available practice questions will be useful preparation for this test, noting that the exact types of questions covered and/or the level of difficulty may be different from the Alleen's test.

Stage 2: Group activity and one-to-one interview

Candidates reaching an acceptable standard in the entrance examination are invited back to school to attend our interview day, which consists of two elements: candidates are assessed in small groups and in a one-to-one interview. Parents are not interviewed. Candidates will be asked about their interests in and out of school, and we will be seeking to identify those best suited to the education offered at Alleyn's. An invitation to an interview does not guarantee the subsequent offer of a place.

Stage 3: For academic scholarship candidates only

Following the group activity and one-to-one interviews, shortlisted academic scholarship candidates will be invited to return to Alleyn's for a series of Academic Scholarship workshops.

Examination Concessions and Access Arrangements

We allow the use of a word processor and/or extra time as appropriate. Candidates must provide a letter from their current school setting out their normal way of working. For further details please refer to our Policy on Entrance Examination Concessions and Access Arrangements.

For further information

Visit the school website www.alleyns.org.uk or contact the Registrar's office: telephone 020 8557 1478 or email registrar@alleyns.org.uk