

Guide to Senior School 11+ Applications

1. *Choosing a School*

All pupils at The Manor are taught a curriculum which will prepare them for 11+ entrance examinations. It is based on National Curriculum guidelines, Common Entrance (CE) requirements, and the teachers' professional experience. Over the two years we try to establish the confidence which will ensure each pupil performs to the best of their ability.

The ability range at The Manor is wide; therefore this is necessarily reflected in the variety of schools that should be considered. The "best" school for one child is not necessarily the "best" for another. League tables often are indicators of the intake some years earlier. The "whole curriculum" – one offering breadth of opportunity, excellent pastoral care and "value added" - should always be considered.

The Headmaster, Deputy Head Academic, Deputy Head Pastoral and Head of Year 5 and 6 are always very happy to offer advice at Parents' Evenings or individually.

2. *Registration at a Senior School*

In order to take any senior school entrance exam your child must be registered for that school. ***Please note that The Manor is not responsible for registering your child at any school.*** Please do make sure that your child is officially registered well before the examination date. Please note that certain boarding schools can close their 11+ registration lists surprisingly early (for example, Wycombe Abbey closes its books in the June preceding the year of anticipated entry i.e. the June of Year 5). It is also necessary to apply to Kendrick School and Reading School (the Reading grammar schools) in June of Year 5.

Once you have registered at a senior school they will send you all of the relevant information regarding their entry requirements and will also request any examination fees which may be payable. It is advisable to ask if the school uses Common Entrance assessment and if appropriate the method of securing a Bursary or Scholarship. In addition to the entrance tests, most schools have some kind of interview process.

3. *Sitting the Common Entrance Examination for Boarding Schools*

Parents need to register their child directly with the school and pay the Registration Fee.

In order to enter your child for the 11+ CE exams you will need to inform us here at The Manor in November of Year 6, as it is our job to register your child with the Independent Schools Examinations Board (ISEB). At present the fee for Common Entrance is **£130.00** which can be added to your school bill.

The 11+ Common Entrance Examination always takes place on a Monday and Tuesday at the end of January in Year 6. The exam papers are sent to The Manor where the pupils sit the exam. Each candidate will sit a paper in Maths, English and possibly Science (depending on the senior school). The completed exam papers are sent directly to the first choice Common Entrance school.

If both the first and second choice schools are Common Entrance schools, parents need to check that a school will agree to be a second choice. The first choice school is the one to which the CE papers are sent by The Manor after the examination has taken place.

4. Sitting other 11+ Entrance Examinations

Local day schools usually set their own examination and communicate with each other to ensure their dates do not clash. The exams are usually, but not always, held on a Saturday at the senior school during the Autumn or early Spring Term of Year 6. **You need to register your child directly for each school you decide to apply to.**

5. Scholarships and Bursaries

Some schools are able to offer Bursaries based on financial need and/or academic ability. Many have Major and perhaps a couple of Minor Scholarships based on academic excellence. There are sometimes Music, Art, Drama or Sport awards. The values of awards vary each year as the senior schools adjust their policy and funds.

Some schools award scholarships directly from the results of the entrance examinations; others set up challenging interviews and further examination papers before or after the normal entrance examinations. Please check with your chosen schools about their current policy and practice. We ask parents to please keep The Manor informed of any scholarship applications.

6. Keeping The Manor Informed of your Applications

Towards the end of September of Year 6 we contact parents asking for confirmation of which senior schools they are applying to. We ask parents to please keep The Manor informed of any changes to applications as time goes on. These communications should be directed to Mr Neil Jackson as Head of Year 5 & 6 (njackson@manorprep.org) and copied to Mrs Becky Goodwin (headsea@manorprep.org).

7. Results of Entrance Examinations

Results of examinations set by non-CE schools are usually announced within 7-14 days. Results of the Common Entrance exams will reach the parents and The Manor within two weeks of the examination. Sometimes the results are not received simultaneously by school and parents, so we again ask parents to please keep The Manor informed.

8. After the Results of any 11+ Entrance Examination

Once a pupil has been offered a place at any senior school the parents are asked to let the senior school know if they wish to accept or decline the offer.

If a pupil hears that they have been successful in an examination for their first choice school before sitting the exam for a second (or even third) choice school, the parents should, in normal circumstances, contact the second choice school and withdraw the candidate.

Some candidates may be put on a waiting list and this can lead to a definite offer at a later date. The sooner all parents accept or decline definite offers, the more quickly the waiting list can be sorted out. That said the final deadline for responses to offers from independent senior schools is not actually until the beginning of March of the year of entry.

We contact parents in March of Year 6 requesting completion of our 'Confirmation of Destination Senior School' online reply slip. This is our final request for confirmation of which school your child will be moving to in September and whether a scholarship/award has been taken up. If a final decision is made ahead of this, it is very helpful if we are kept informed.



**SENIOR SCHOOLS WHICH USE COMMON ENTRANCE AT 11+
FOR ALL OR PART OF THEIR ENTRY PROCEDURE**

Benenden School	Cranbrook TN17 4AA United Kingdom
Downe House School	Cold Ash, Thatcham RG18 9JJ United Kingdom
Queen Anne's School	6 Henley Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 6DX United Kingdom
Queenswood School	Shepherd's Way, Brookmans Park, Hatfield AL9 6NS United Kingdom
Sherborne Girls School	Bradford Road, Sherborne DT9 3QN United Kingdom
St Mary's School	63 Curzon Street, Calne SN11 0DF United Kingdom
St Swithun's School	Alresford Road, Winchester SO21 1HA United Kingdom
Westonbirt School	Tetbury GL8 8QG United Kingdom
Woldingham School	Marden Park, Woldingham CR3 7YA United Kingdom

Taken from the ISEB website 05.08.2021

Please contact schools directly for advice on their entry procedure.

Senior School Open Days Autumn Term 2021

The Manor Preparatory School, Faringdon Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX13 6LN
Tel: 01235 858458 • Fax: 01235 559593 • email: admissions@manorprep.org • www.manorprep.org

Dates taken from school websites in September 2021.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to COVID-19, schools are approaching Open Days in a variety of different ways and in many cases pre-booking is necessary. Please check individual school websites to confirm options and dates as well as to find out about booking procedures.

Abingdon School

Saturday 2 October 2021

Bloxham School, Oxford

Saturday 24 September 2021, Saturday 9 October 2021

Cheltenham Ladies' College, Cheltenham

Thursday 7 October 2021 (virtual)

Friday 3 December 2021

Cokethorpe School, Witney

Saturday 9 October 2021

Virtual tours available on request

Cranford House, Moulsoford

Saturday 9 October 2021

Dean Close, Cheltenham

Virtual Tour and Meet the Head video available on website

In person tours available on request

d'Overbroeck's, Oxford

Saturday 9 October 2021

Downe House, Thatcham

Saturday 11 September 2021 and Saturday 13 November 2021

Headington School, Oxford

Saturday 2 October 2021

Meet the Headmistress – Monday 24 September (Virtual)

Leighton Park School, Reading

Saturday 25 September 2021

Magdalen College School, Oxford

Saturday 18 September 2021

Malvern St. James, Malvern

Saturday 9 October 2021

Our Lady's, Abingdon

Saturday 25 September 2021, Wednesday 24 November 2021

Oxford High School, Oxford

Saturday 25 September 2021

Pangbourne College, Pangbourne

Saturday 18 September 2021, Saturday 16 October 2021

Queen Anne's School, Caversham

Saturday 11 September 2021, Friday 19 November 2021

Rye St Anthony School, Oxford
Saturday 25 September 2021

St Gabriel's, Newbury
Saturday 2 October 2021

St Helen and St Katharine, Abingdon
Saturday 2 October 2021

St Mary's School, Calne
Saturday 9 October 2021 – wait list
Saturday 6 November 2021

The Abbey, Reading
Virtual Open Day available on website
In person dates to be confirmed

The Oratory, Reading
Saturday 9 October 2021

Tudor Hall School, Banbury
Saturday 2 October 2021

Wychwood School, Oxford
Virtual Open Day available on website

Wycombe Abbey, High Wycombe
Saturday 18 September 2021