

## **Junior School Assessment Procedure**

### **Criteria for Assessment**

All children who apply for a place in Year 1 – Year 6 must be assessed before an offer of a place can be made. Prospective pupils entering Years 1 and 2 are assessed by the class teacher and subject staff; prospective pupils entering Years 3 to 6 are assessed by the Individual Needs Department. Children who apply for entry to Year 6 will also be assessed on their ability to pass the 11+ entrance examinations to the Senior School.

### **Educational and Health Reports**

Open communication between parents and teaching staff is encouraged by St Gabriel's at the outset of the relationship. It is very important that the school is informed of any relevant background information on prospective pupils as this means we do not lose any time in assisting pupils to progress when they join the school.

Parents of those children who already have an educational or relevant health report are asked to ***submit this prior to the assessment day***, preferably at the point of registration.

### **Assessment & Taster Day**

Assessments take place in the Junior School on Monday mornings. Arrival time is 8.45am and the assessment will take approximately an hour.

Children should come in their current school uniform and bring a PE kit, a coat and wellies (if wet) and two healthy snacks of fruit/vegetable and a drink. Lunch is provided. Collection time is 4.00pm from the main reception.

### **The Assessment**

A member of the Individual Needs Department conducts the assessment of prospective pupils on a one-to-one basis.

The pupil is put at ease with a general chat about their likes and dislikes and whether they already know anyone here etc.

They are asked whether they wear glasses and if they have them to wear.

The formal assessment then begins, which includes the use of some or all of the following materials depending at what stage through the year the assessment is taking place:

- Reading from Diagnostic Reading assessment
- Sample of free writing
- NFER Maths
- Vernon Spelling Test

In addition to this if it is felt necessary:

- MAT – Non-verbal reading assessment

### **Taster Day**

Following the Junior School assessment, children are invited to spend the remainder of the day with their current year group in classroom activities and lessons.

### **Results**

The results from the assessments provide information to write a brief report for the Head of the Junior School as to the suitability of offering a place at St Gabriel's.

If there are any concerns about specific learning difficulties or any other conditions which may have an impact on the individual's education, further assessments are available and the candidate may be invited to return for a more detailed evaluation. The more information we gather, the better able the school is to meet any needs an individual may have.

If the child has successfully passed the assessments, the Admissions Office will make a formal written offer of a place, subject to availability of places, within one week of the assessment.