



MILL HILL SCHOOL

Revised Policy for 13+ Entrance and Scholarship Examinations

The following changes will take effect from January 2010. They will be published to prep schools and prospective 2010 entrants from January 2009.

The timing of the entrance examinations will be brought forward to the second Saturday in January and the entrance examinations will form the first stage of the academic scholarship assessment procedure (see below).

Entrance Examinations

The standard entrance examinations will change

from English, Maths, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning
to English, Maths, Science, French (*French normally omitted for applicants with English as an Additional Language*) with an optional paper in Latin.

Candidates not sitting the Latin paper will not be disadvantaged, but those who do sit it will have the opportunity for their performance in that paper to be taken into consideration if they are scholarship applicants.

The examinations will be set by the appropriate Head of Department at Mill Hill. A syllabus for each examination will be linked to the relevant Common Entrance syllabus and will be published in March 2009. The questions in the entrance examinations will be graduated in difficulty so that there is sufficient material accessible to standard applicants but also sufficiently more demanding material to allow potential scholars to be identified.

Candidates for 13+ entry from Belmont will only be required to sit the entrance examinations if are applying for an academic scholarship (including a Continuation Award).

The Remove entrance examinations will also change in a similar way, to include English, Maths, Science and French. The French examination will be optional for applicants with English as an Additional Language.

Assessment Procedure for Scholarship Awards

The current arrangement of separate scholarship examinations will be discontinued. Instead, the Head of an applicant's prep school will be asked to make the recommendation for consideration for an academic award and the format of the prep school Head's reference will

be modified to allow more space to identify particular academic strengths, especially where these are in subjects not in the entrance examinations.

Those candidates whose performance in the entrance examinations is sufficiently strong, as assessed by the School, will be invited to proceed to a series of scholarship interviews, held at the end of the second week after the entrance examinations. Those going forward for scholarship interview may include those recommended by their prep school head and also any others who have met the required standard of performance in the entrance examinations.

Candidates will be interviewed by Heads of Department at Mill Hill in 1, 2 or 4 of the subjects offered in the entrance examinations (depending on their performance), and by the Headmaster.

The subject interviews will be 20 minutes long, with candidates given some material/questions to prepare for 20 minutes before each interview. The interviews will have agreed criteria for evaluation.

The range of academic awards available will be:

Academic Scholarship – for strong performance in all/most scholarship interviews

Academic Exhibition – for good performance in all scholarship interviews

Exhibition in one or two named subject(s) – for strong performance in the relevant subject interviews and in the Headmaster's interview.

The School will continue to offer **awards in Art and Design, Drama, Music and Sport**; the assessments process for these will not change, though candidates may be screened on application to decide whether they are sufficiently competitive to proceed to the practical assessments.