

THE ENTRANCE TEST (SEPTEMBER 2012) AND ADMISSION TO YEAR 7 IN SEPTEMBER 2013

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (Updated 23 January 2012)

How do I apply for a place at Nonsuch?

All applicants to the selective schools in the London Borough of Sutton must complete two application forms:

- 1 The Common Application Form (CAF) - which is available from your Local Education Authority.
- 2 The Nonsuch Supplementary Form - which will be available from 4 May 2012 on the school's website.

What is the closing date for submitting the Common Application Form?

The closing date for the Common Application Form (CAF) is 31 October 2012.

What is the closing date for submitting the Nonsuch Supplementary Form?

The closing date for the Nonsuch Supplementary Form is 12 noon on Wednesday 5 September 2012.

How do I get a copy of the Nonsuch prospectus?

The School's prospectus is available to view on the Nonsuch website at www.nonsuchhigh.co.uk/prospectus. Alternatively, updated prospectuses, (including the latest public examination results) can be obtained on our Open Day or by contacting the School's Administration Office.

Can I visit Nonsuch with my daughter before submitting an application form?

Yes - you are warmly welcome to visit Nonsuch with your daughter on Open Day which will be held between 16.30 and 21.00 on Wednesday 11 July 2012.

How can I obtain a copy of the School's admissions arrangements?

The School's admissions arrangements are set out in Policy Note 6 - Admissions. This can be viewed online at www.nonsuchhigh.co.uk/admissions/PN06Admissions.pdf.

Can I apply to Nonsuch on-line?

Yes - all applicants (regardless of their home Local Education Authority) are strongly encouraged to complete the Nonsuch Supplementary Form online. The Common Application Form will be available online, or in hard copy, from home Local Education Authorities in September 2012.

If I wish to apply to both Nonsuch High School for Girls and Wallington High School for Girls, do I have to complete two Supplementary Forms?

Yes you do - the two schools do not have shared admissions arrangements. If you are applying to both Nonsuch and Wallington High Schools for Girls, you need to complete each school's Supplementary Form.

Have the catchment areas for Nonsuch changed recently?

Yes - changes came into effect in 2009. The Admissions Policy for entry from September 2010 onwards contains a new catchment area which replaces the previous catchment areas

Where is the catchment area for Nonsuch?

Nonsuch High School for Girls has one defined catchment area, mentioned in paragraph 4.2.4 of the School's Admissions Policy, which is a circle with a radius of 5.25 kms centred on the main front door of the school.

Can my daughter still sit the test if we live outside the catchment area?

Yes she can. She can try for a Top 80 place. Eighty places are awarded each year on the basis of her score in the entrance tests in rank order irrespective of where the applicant lives.

Can I apply to Nonsuch if I live outside the London Borough of Sutton?

Yes - you can apply regardless of where you live. However, if you live outside the catchment area, your daughter will only be considered under the Top 80 category (described in paragraph 4.2.3 of the Admissions Policy).

Can my daughter sit the test abroad?

No, candidates applying from abroad must make arrangements to sit the test at the School.

Does it matter where you live within the circle?

Distance from the School is only considered in the event of a tie for the final place in the Top 80 or catchment circle criteria. In such circumstances, places will be allocated according to proximity to Nonsuch, with those living nearest gaining the highest priority. Distances are measured in a straight line between the home address and the front door of the School (and verified using a Geographical Information System (GIS) computer program). (Refer to paragraph 4.3 of the Nonsuch Admissions Policy)

Is it easier to gain admission if you live nearer to the school?

Initially, all applicants who pass the test and live within the circle are ranked by criteria according to the score they achieve in the test, not the distance from the School. Where two or more girls have the same score for the final place under the criteria, the School's published admissions arrangements determine that the place will be offered to the applicant who lives nearer to the School.

Is it possible to see a map of the Nonsuch catchment area?

A map of the Nonsuch catchment area is available for inspection during normal school hours. You are asked to telephone first to make an appointment (020 8394 1308)

What is the date of the Entrance Test?

The entrance test will be held on Wednesday 19 September 2012.

How will I find out about the arrangements for the Entrance Test?

All applicants for Nonsuch will receive a letter containing the detailed arrangements by Friday 14 September 2012.

What will my daughter need to bring to the Entrance Test?

Your daughter will need to bring 2 HB pencils and a clean, soft rubber to correct any mistakes. (HB pencils with rubbers on the end may be used.) Your daughter must not bring any form of mascot with her.

What does the Entrance Test comprise?

The entrance test comprises three equally weighted multiple choice papers: a verbal reasoning test, a non-verbal reasoning test and an English comprehension test.

How long are the individual tests?

The verbal reasoning test is one continuous test lasting 50 minutes; the non-verbal reasoning test is broken down into 4 tests, each of which last 9 minutes; the English comprehension test lasts either 35, 40 or 45 minutes, depending on which test we use.

What is the pass mark?

The pass mark for the tests varies each year and is set by the School.

Does my daughter have to pass all three tests?

Yes she does. Pass marks vary year on year, but all girls sitting the test are required to pass each of the tests in order to be deemed of selective ability.

Is it possible to obtain practice papers for the tests?

Practice papers for similar tests can be purchased from large stationers or online retailers.

Is there a break between the tests?

There will be a short break (including an opportunity to use the toilet) between each of the tests.

Can my daughter bring a snack to the test?

Your daughter may bring a drink and a snack to consume during the breaks between the tests.

What happens if my daughter is ill on the day of the test?

Parents/carers are strongly advised that candidates who are ill or indisposed immediately before or on the day of the test must not be presented for the test. Where a candidate is ill, a medical certificate confirming the illness should be submitted to the School by Monday 24 September 2012. A subsequent test will be arranged no later than 10 days after the date of the original test.

Is passing the test a guarantee of a place?

No it isn't, because normally more girls pass the test than the number of available places. For September 2013, the School's Published Admission Number (PAN) is 180.

How many places are available at the School in Year 7 in September 2013?

There are 180 places available in Year 7 in September 2013.

How many girls sat the test at Nonsuch in September 2011?

In September 2011, over 1300 girls sat the entrance test at Nonsuch.

How are places allocated if more than 180 girls pass the test?

The Schools Admissions Policy includes criteria to be applied in the event of over-subscription. (Refer to Section 4 of the Nonsuch Admissions Policy)

Is the fact that my child is young for her class (i.e. spring/summer birthday) taken into account?

Yes it is. The papers are standardised according to age measured in years and months so that those who are younger are not penalised.

What happens if I move after the test?

If you move after the date of the test but before 31 October 2012, your new address will be used subject to satisfactory proof of your move. (This date relates to the closing date for applications within the Pan-London Co-ordinated Secondary Admissions Scheme.) Changes of address occurring after 31 October will not be considered in the initial allocation of places. If you move after this date, please inform us. We will take your new address for correspondence purposes only.

What happens if I move after 31 October 2012?

Nonsuch High School for Girls participates in the Pan-London Co-ordinated Admissions System. The arrangements require that a date is set after which no changes can be accepted. For admissions for September 2012, this date has been set as 31 October 2012 (Changes of address up to ?? December 2012 may be considered if there are exceptional reasons behind the change, such as if a family has just moved into the area, or has returned from abroad. See Paragraph 4.8.2 of The Admissions Policy)

If I already have a daughter attending Nonsuch High School for Girls, will her sister automatically be offered a place if she passes the test?

No - under the Admissions Policy, siblings of girls already attending the School have no precedence over other applicants.

When will I receive the result of the entrance test?

The results of the entrance test will be posted to parents by first class post on 10 October 2012. This will inform parents whether their daughter is of selective ability before the closing date for the submission of the Common Application Form. Please note that it will not be possible to give out results over the telephone.

Dates to note

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| 4 May 2012 | Supplementary Form requesting testing available on the School website at www.nonsuchhigh.co.uk or on the London Borough of Sutton website at www.sutton.gov.uk/education/admissions |
| 11 July 2012 | Nonsuch High School for Girls Open Day(16.30 to 21.00) – an opportunity to visit the school and talk to the staff |
| 5 September 2012 12.00 noon GMT | Closing date for the return of the completed Supplementary Forms to Nonsuch High School for Girls for girls wishing to sit the test on 19 September 2012 |
| 1 September 2012 | Common Application Form available online from home local authority websites |
| 19 September 2012 | Selection tests at Nonsuch High School for Girls |
| 10 October 2012 | Results of the selection tests sent by first class post |
| 31 October 2012 | Closing date for London local authorities for the submission of the completed Common Application Form (CAF). A different closing date may apply if your home local authority is neither London nor Surrey. |
| 1 March 2013 - National Offer Day | Offers of places will be sent by home local authorities |

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If you have any other queries that have not been answered by these Frequently Asked Questions, please write to the school stating your name, address and daughter's name. Either email your query to admissions@nonsuch.sutton.sch.uk or write to The Admissions Secretary, Nonsuch High School for Girls, Ewell Road, Cheam, Surrey, SM3 8AB.