

YOUR SENIOR SCHOOL  
Y7  
27  
YOUR YEAR

NOTRE  
DAME  
SCHOOL



WHAT TO EXPECT  
11+ ENTRANCE

# What do you love about being in Year 7?

*"Everyone is so nice to you."*

*"You feel very welcome."*

*"Everyone is supportive."*

*"I love all my teachers."*

*"I like how there are so many activities and opportunities."*

*"The food is amazing and all the teachers are fun."*

*"I've made so many new friends."*

*"You get to try new things."*



*"To all the brilliant girls sitting their 11+ exams, believe in your strengths, know your worth, and know you are capable of amazing things. Walk into the exam with your head held high and trust in everything you have learnt - Good luck you've got this!"*

**Sophia Newton,**  
Head Girl



## INTRODUCTION

When you arrive at Notre Dame on assessment day, please remember that we are here to look after you and we want to get to know you. We will do all we can to help you relax and enjoy your time with us. We know that assessments may seem scary and that you will feel a little nervous, but hopefully it will feel more like an everyday activity than an assessment.

We hope you enjoy this booklet. We asked our Year 7 pupils for their advice, so you'll find some handy hints and some good tips, as well as some practical information and fun activities.

## Essential stuff

Make sure you bring these things with you on the day...

- **Pencils & Pens**
- **Sharpener**
- **Ruler**
- **Rubber**
- **Bottle of Water**

...and a lucky mascot if you want to!



## What advice would you give to girls taking the assessment?

***"Talk to people, make friends."***

***"Go over everything...don't worry if you don't finish, do the best you can."***

***"Take your time and don't panic."***

***"Watch the clock."***

***"There is nothing to be scared of. It will be fine."***



# The Assessment

Our 11+ Assessment consists of 3 parts:

1. An online assessment
2. A piece of creative writing
3. A chat with our friendly staff

We want you to **relax and try your best**, so we also provide you with treats, snacks and fun activities to keep you going throughout your time with us.

Girls who have extra time will all be together in one room.

**Top Tip**

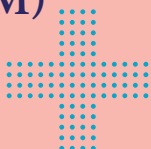
*Make sure you read all the possible answers to a question before you make your choice. You might find an answer that looks very nearly right, but if you look again, you might see that another is absolutely right.*



## ONLINE (ATOM) ASSESSMENT

– 60 MINUTES

The online assessment (ATOM Test) will include maths, non-verbal reasoning and verbal reasoning/comprehension. There are some familiarisation materials on our website.



**Top Tip**

## MATHS

The maths section of the assessment is made up of multiple choice questions and you will be given some paper for any working out you wish to do. There will be practice time before you begin the assessment.

*Remember to check back to each question once you have done your working out, but before you chose one of the multiple-choice answers – you may have forgotten the last step of the question, such as halving your answer or adding rather than subtracting something.*

**Top Tip**

*Patterns may change in several ways at once in a single question, so if you find two answers that you think are the right answer, look again...there will be something else changing that you didn't spot before. There will only ever be one right answer to a question.*

## THE NON-VERBAL REASONING PAPER (NVR)

The NVR section lasts about 10 minutes out of the hour-long online assessment. It is an adaptive assessment, which means that it will ask you questions in accordance to your ability and also means that not everyone will have the same questions. There is practice time at the beginning of each section in the assessment.

These questions will be multiple choice and they are all about spotting patterns and thinking logically.





### Top Tip

*You will be told when you have 5 minutes remaining, so use this time to check your work. Look at your capital letters and full stops and make sure you have used some paragraphs. If you have forgotten to put paragraphs, please draw two vertical lines like this || to show where you want a paragraph to go. Insert a few extra super-interesting words too, when you go back to check.*



### Top Tip

*Just be yourself. It's ok to be shy or to ask lots of questions. We want you to feel happy and comfortable during your time with us.*

## TIME TO RELAX

There will be plenty of time to relax and enjoy fun activities with other girls. Our Sixth Formers will also be there to chat to you and you can ask them questions about their time at Notre Dame School.

## CREATIVE WRITING

– 30 MINUTES

Your creative writing task will last 30 minutes (37 minutes if you have extra time). You will be given a choice of subjects to write about – you only need to write about one and you can choose whichever one you like. An example creative writing task can be found on our website.

## THE CHAT

Everyone gets a chance to have a chat with one of our senior teachers. We call this a chat rather than an interview and it will take place during the morning or lunch break (or during the school day if you are in Notre Dame Prep School). See our Practical Information section overleaf for more details about what will happen during your chat.

# Practical information

## Where do I go?

Please park in Car Park 4 and wait in your car until the event start time. Please then come to the Montaigne Theatre entrance, where you will be directed to your group. It might be a bit busy and bustling but there will be a sign that shows you where you need to stand.

## Do I need to sign in?

One of our lovely school staff will be waiting to welcome you and will sign you in and give you a name sticker to put on so that the different teachers looking after you will know who you are. A teacher will then come and collect you to take you to your assessment classroom.

## What clothes should I wear?

Please wear whatever you are most comfortable in – jeans and t-shirt, party dress, comfy onesie! Your normal home clothes are fine.

## Will we sit in an enormous hall?

Oh no! We don't like big, cold, unfriendly halls! You'll take your exam in an ordinary classroom with a group of other girls, with our lovely teachers and Sixth Formers looking after you. You'll spend most of your day in your classroom, but there will be breaks and snacks in the Dining Hall. There will be time set aside for fun activities, so you can get to know other girls.

## Will I be able to sit with my friends?

We will be keeping girls from the same school together in one group as much as possible. But don't worry if you are the only one from your school – we will make sure you are with other girls who are in the same boat and we are sure you will all make friends very quickly.

## Do I need a pencil case?

Yes, a clear pencil case or bag is best. Make sure you have a couple of pencils, a pen, a rubber, a sharpener and a ruler. Calculators are not allowed in the exam.

## Can I bring a lucky mascot?

If your lucky teddy insists on coming along, then that's no problem. We know how bad tempered lucky teddies can get, if they are left at home on important days. You are welcome to bring along a lucky mascot: be it a lucky monkey, lucky pen or lucky rubber band. If your mascot is nice and small then all the better, so it can sit on your desk. If you bring along a fullsize elephant, he will have to sit quietly in the corner (no trumpeting allowed please)!

## What if I don't feel well?

If you don't feel well, you can tell one of the teachers and they will look after you.

## What tests will I do?

Take a look earlier in this booklet to find out about the tests you will be taking.

### **How much practice should I do beforehand?**

All the questions in the maths and English tests will be on stuff you should have studied in school, so don't worry about having to learn extra things. Some girls do lots of practice, some don't do any at all and some just do a bit; everyone learns in a different way and you should prepare in the way that feels right for you. Try not to make comparisons with what other girls are doing. It might be a good idea, though, to take a look at a couple of practice non-verbal and reasoning papers, just so you have a bit of an idea of what it is all about. There are some practice materials on the Year 7 web page.

### **Can I bring my mobile phone?**

Please leave all mobile phones and electronic devices at home. If you need to contact your parents for any reason, we'll call them for you.

### **What will I have to eat?**

You will have a snack at break time and we'll give you some lunch before you go home. It is very important to keep your energy levels up! Cookies will definitely be involved. Your parents will have received a special form to let us know about any allergies or preferences.

### **What if I get thirsty?**

Please bring a named water bottle along with you. Make sure you have a good drink of water with your breakfast – drinking water is very good for brain power! (And try not to have a really sugary breakfast – not so good for brain power!)

### **Will I be allowed to go to the toilet?**

Of course you will! Please ask if you need to go to the toilet. You have time to go to the toilet between the assessment sessions, so that you can avoid losing time by nipping out during your assessment.

### **Will I be allowed a calculator?**

No calculators are allowed.

### **What will happen in my chat?**

We really enjoy meeting you on Assessment Day. This chat will be with one of our Senior School teachers, who are all very kind and friendly. There really is nothing to worry about, we just want to get to know you and find out a bit about you. There won't be any trick questions and we won't ask you anything about science or capital cities or the name of the Prime Minister, or anything like that. Just be yourself and we know you will do just fine.

### **Can I ask questions?**

During your breaks, the teachers who look after you will be very happy to answer any questions you may have about life at Notre Dame, or you can ask questions during your chat, so please ask away.

### **When will I get my results?**

We'll post the results out to you in January.

# You can find everything you need for your assessment in our special wordsearch!

Remember, words can run forwards, backwards, up, down and diagonally...

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | M | R | R | B | N | S | G | K | P | I | C | U | W | Z |
| E | U | M | O | I | M | L | I | H | T | O | C | S | A | M |
| B | V | Q | A | I | B | N | N | I | U | W | I | Z | T | J |
| B | W | R | L | X | S | I | E | R | G | Z | Y | J | E | L |
| U | B | E | P | G | N | H | A | P | N | K | R | V | R | O |
| R | W | S | L | U | R | G | A | C | C | R | Z | Y | V | I |
| X | R | D | C | I | E | V | S | R | Z | A | B | H | P | C |
| K | C | U | L | S | C | N | G | I | P | M | Q | S | H | M |
| P | R | U | L | E | R | N | W | H | L | E | U | X | N | V |
| A | C | V | L | R | S | X | E | H | I | W | N | F | R | N |
| N | X | C | E | S | T | T | B | P | C | V | E | E | T | A |
| E | E | Y | P | E | N | C | I | L | C | A | S | E | R | I |
| D | N | M | W | K | K | P | R | L | T | R | O | Q | H | X |
| A | I | O | K | R | D | Z | V | K | D | P | H | J | K | N |
| E | M | R | Z | R | F | F | I | Y | S | E | O | J | J | W |

BRAIN  
COURAGE  
LUCK  
MASCOT  
MUFTI

PEN  
PENCIL  
PENCILCASE  
RUBBER  
RULER

SHARPENER  
SMILE  
WATER

If you'd like a reminder of all the fun you could have here at Notre Dame, why not take another look at your dedicated web page – just **scan the QR code** here or visit: **notredame.co.uk**



Contact admissions for more information:  
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**NOTRE DAME SCHOOL**



A Foundation of the  
Company of Mary Our Lady



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