



BLACKHEATH HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

I am writing ahead of the 11+ admissions season to let you know how we will be adapting our processes and admissions events this year in light of Covid-19 regulations for parents of girls intending to make an application to Blackheath High School this year.:

- Our open events this year will be online to ensure the safety of our guests and students. Our Virtual Open Day is on 26th September and booking is essential. It will be an opportunity to learn more about the school, hear from teachers and girls, ask questions, take a 360 Virtual Tour of our fantastic new facilities whilst also being a great chance to experience our strong online provision. Please book here: <https://www.blackheathhighschool.gdst.net/1974/virtual-open-day>. Places must be booked in advance of 26th September.
- Our whole admission process has shifted slightly earlier this year. This is to ensure we can still keep all personalised elements of our admissions process, in the context of increased numbers of applications and the need to stagger numbers through school. The key date is our deadline for 11+ applications, which is **16th October 2020**; this is earlier than previous years.
- We are still intending to run an examination day on **Saturday 14th November 2020** (again earlier than previous years) but we will stagger arrivals and exam sessions to ensure social distancing. This should make the day feel even more friendly and welcoming, we hope!
- We have changed the nature of papers being sat by candidates and familiarisation samples can be found here: <https://www.gd-assessment.co.uk/products/11plus-series-11-plus-practice-papers/11plus-familiarisation-materials/>. There will be three tests: English, Maths and Verbal reasoning.
- We will be inviting longlisted candidates for scholarship assessment days throughout December/January and we will hold our interviews on Saturday 16th January. For those of you who have sent candidates to us before, the big change here, is that we will only be interviewing girls longlisted after the examination, to ensure that we can host girls and their families properly and safely in our buildings. We will be reading the references you send about your girls carefully before this stage, alongside the examination outcomes, so thank you very much for the care and time you put into this process.
- Key admissions dates can be found here: https://4905753ff3cea231a868-376d75cd2890937de6f542499f88a819.ssl.cf3.rackcdn.com/blackheath_res/uploads/document/11-plus-Important-Dates-for-2021.pdf?ts=1593503134
- All candidates will have the chance to visit the buildings and meet staff in person on the exam day on Saturday 14th November and afterwards when they attend for an 11+ interview, if they are short-listed for this. All being well, we will still look to arrange our popular Welcome Afternoon, in February, for girls who receive offers, to have a further taste of life at Blackheath High School.

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