



2018 Admissions (Frequently asked questions)

What is the Published Admission Number for Marling School?

150

How does my son gain admission to Marling School?

Marling School is a selective school. To gain a place your child must first sit and achieve the required standard in the Grammar School Entrance Test.

How do I apply to sit the grammar school entrance test?

You must complete a Grammar School Registration to enable your son to sit the entrance test. Information on this will be found on the Marling School website www.marling.gloucs.sch.uk at the appropriate time. If you would like an emailed 'reminder to register' for 2018 Entry this can be requested via our website. It is preferable for you to register online and all communication can then be by email. However, paper registration forms are available from the school by request. Once you have registered, as we approach the date of the test you will be sent details of timings of the day and what your son should bring.

What is the format of the test?

The test consists of questions on verbal ability (comprehension, vocabulary and verbal reasoning), numerical reasoning and non-verbal reasoning. Instructions are provided by a prepared audio soundtrack. There are two papers each lasting 45 to 50 minutes with additional time for instructions and some worked examples. There will be a break between the papers.

Why do we use the CEM test?

CEM are one of the largest independent providers of educational assessment and monitoring systems in the world. They have been developing selection assessments since 1999, and provide tests for a number of grammar schools in other counties. CEM design their tests to enable all children to demonstrate their academic potential without excessive preparation.

Is it possible to obtain some practice papers/sample questions beforehand?

A familiarisation booklet is available on the school website which gives examples of the sorts of questions used in the test. CEM does not produce commercially available practice materials. Please be aware that materials sold on the internet or provided by tutors, other than CEM familiarisation and practice materials, are not genuine CEM samples.

How should my son prepare for the test?

Beyond the familiarisation material, the best preparation for the tests is to read books that challenge the reader and practise mathematics on a regular basis.

When will I get the results?

The results will be available before submission of your common Application Form (CAF) to the Local Authority, giving you another opportunity to visit the school at our October Open Evening.

If my son reaches the qualifying standard how do I apply for a place at Marling School?

If your son meets the qualifying standard you will be informed and can apply for a place at Marling School by completing the Local Authority's CAF for allocation of school places. The deadline for this is usually 31 October.

Does the school have a catchment area?

Marling School does not have a catchment area.

Does the school give priority to candidates from families entitled to claim free school meals (FSM)?

In a tie-break situation, candidates claiming or entitled to claim free school meals at the time of the test will be prioritised. Documentary evidence will be required prior to sitting the test. Contact the Admissions Officer for details.