

INTRODUCING SEAG

Schools' Entrance Assessment Group



BACKGROUND

The Specification and Format for the SEAG 2024 Entrance Assessment are identical to those used for 2023 and are in the 'Guidance for Parents - Resources Section' of the SEAG website

[SEAG - FORMAT](#)

[SEAG - SPECIFICATION](#)

All Post Primary schools using academic selection have signed up to use the test



ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Parental application to any of the schools to sit the tests

Place allocated after the online registration is complete

Cost of £20.00

Free School Meals are exempt

KEY POINTS

2 PAPERS ONLY,
both papers are in an
identical format

Clearly defined Literacy
and Numeracy sections

Mainly Multiple Choice
(GL style format) - some
free response (AQE style
format) questions
included in both papers

Practice questions at the
beginning of each paper-
5 Literacy and 5
Numeracy
(not assessed)

A total of 56 questions
to be completed in 60
mins

Answers recorded on a
separate sheet for
digital marking



2024 Entrance Assessment Format (at a glance)

Overview

- The Entrance Assessment consists of two papers – pupils sit both
- **Paper 1 - Saturday 16th November 2024**
- **Paper 2 - Saturday 23rd November 2024**
- Both papers assess English (or Gaeilge) and Mathematics
- Both papers have an identical format consisting of 3 Sections
- Section 1, the Practice Test, is not timed – only the Main Test is timed
- Pupils may begin their Main Test by starting with English (or Gaeilge) questions or by starting with Maths questions.

Section 1 – The Practice Test

- 5 English (or Gaeilge) questions
- 5 Maths questions
- Questions designed to help pupils settle before the Main Test begins
- Practice Test not assessed

Section 2 – The English (or Gaeilge) Main Test

- 28 questions (Q1-Q28)
- **Punctuation Exercise** (5 multiple choice questions)
- **Grammar Exercise** (5 multiple choice questions)
- **Spelling Exercise** (5 multiple choice questions)
- **English (or Gaeilge) Comprehension.**
- Pupils read a passage- answer 13 questions (Q16-Q28)
- Q16-Q22 multiple choice
- Q23-Q28 free response

Section 3 – The Maths Main Test

- 28 questions (Q29-Q56)
- Q29-Q50 multiple choice
- Q51-Q56 free response

Other

- **60 minutes to answer the 56 questions**
- Each multiple choice question has 5 possible answers
- Answer sheet provided – see practice materials

Practice Materials *(available free to download)*

- **Practice Papers 1 and 2-** set out the format very clearly
- **Answer Sheets 1 and 2** - double sided with clear spaces for every answer
- **Parents' Guide** - further details of format + answers to every question

KEY POINTS



RESULTS WILL BE ACCESSED
ON A WEBSITE



SCORES WILL BE
STANDARDISED



LITERACY AND NUMERACY
SCORES WILL BE AVAILABLE

UNDERSTANDING RESULTS

- ▶ The Total Standardised Age Score (TSAS) is the overall outcome from the Entrance Assessment, based on the 56 English (or Gaeilge) Questions in Papers 1 and 2 and the 56 Maths questions in Papers 1 and 2. The Total SAS is the sum of the English SAS and the Maths SAS. The Total SAS range will be 138-282 with a mean (or average) of 200.
- ▶ *A Standardised Age Score (SAS) takes account of a child's age when he/she took the assessment, the number of correct answers and the degree of difficulty of the assessment.*
- ▶ Outcomes are also given as one of six Bands.

CONSISTENCIES

- Appeals Process which remains free
- Re-mark service
- Paper will be provided for calculating answers
- Time adjustments can be applied, for example: processing delays, eyesight problems. The application needs to be supported by evidence from the GP/school
- Results will be available at end of January/beginning of February

KEY DATES

- Registration OPENS Monday 20th May 2024 (8am)



- Registration CLOSES Friday 20th September 2024 (11:59pm)



- Paper 1: SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2024



- Paper 2: SATURDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2024



We are more than happy to help you with your application. Please notify the school.



WHAT TO EXPECT...

- ▶ Each school day starts at 09:10 and finishes at 15:10 Monday to Friday.

There are two breaks each day, one between 11:00 and 11:30 and another between 12:40 and 13:40. The rest of the time is spent in lessons.

What is the total time in minutes spent in lessons during each school day?

- ▶ A 270 minutes
- ▶ B 268 minutes
- ▶ C 260 minutes
- ▶ D 248 minutes
- ▶ E 240 minutes

WHAT TO EXPECT...

► Which fraction is NOT equal to $\frac{3}{12}$?

► **A** $\frac{1}{4}$

B $\frac{2}{8}$

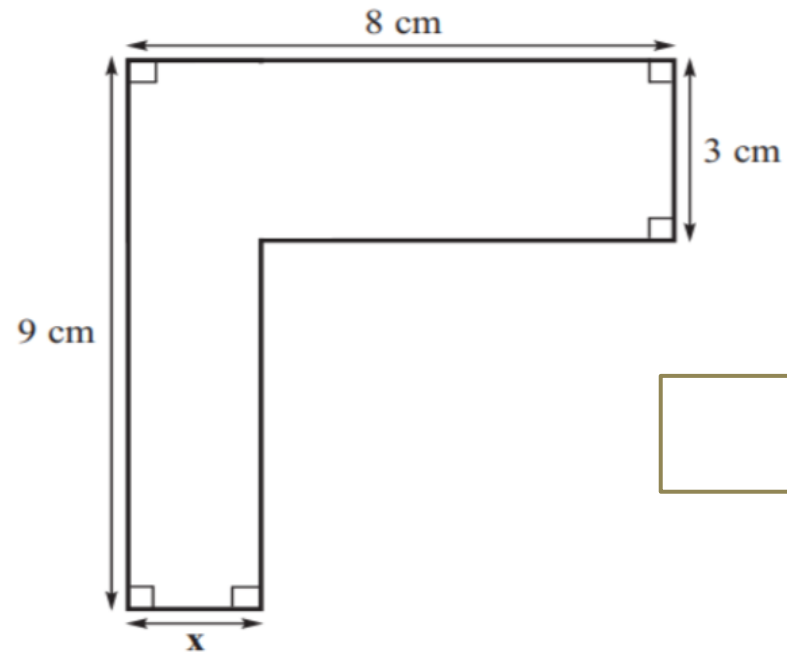
C $\frac{1}{9}$

D $\frac{4}{16}$

E $\frac{5}{20}$

WHAT TO EXPECT...

Look at the diagram below. The **lengths of three sides** are written on the diagram. **Another side** is of length **x**.



The diagram has an **area of 36 cm^2** . **What is x?** Write your answer in the space below.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

- ▶ P6 pupils complete at least one SEAG test a week. They will also be working on numeracy and literacy work of this standard during the school day.
- ▶ Pupils cover a considerable amount of numeracy and literacy, requiring consolidation through homework.
- ▶ An Easter and Summer pack will help to maintain form
- ▶ Don't worry... answers are provided! 😊
- ▶ Parents should allow pupils to complete the tasks independently. Give them a break while it is marked. Remember to praise your child thoroughly for all their efforts. Encourage your child to try and fix mistakes by themselves first before helping them with tricky questions.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

- As pupils complete the SEAG test with Mrs Baxter, I will continue with test preparation in class. It is important to remember that the curriculum is the context for all classroom lessons and the delivery and content will remain consistent for every individual in the class whether they are sitting the test or not.
- Preparation is the key!
- Sleep / rest (routine bedtime)
- Homework completed
- Go over tests - focus carefully on corrections
- Keep hydrated
- Exercise/fresh air breaks/outdoor time important
- Punctual to school
- Praise and comfort

FINALLY - AT HOME

- ▶ Homework - talk and set up a schedule. Make time to work one-to-one with absolutely no distractions. It will take much less time to complete if there are no distractions.
- ▶ We are currently working on test packs for you to complete over the Easter and Summer breaks
- ▶ Practice resources such as Corbett Maths and Mathletics - fantastic for going over any forgotten processes, or for consolidation purposes. Closely follows the curriculum. (Corbett Maths 5-a-day silver and gold questions excellent!)
- ▶ Literacy: BBC Bitesize / learn / go to primary / Northern Ireland / P6 / language and literacy / writing then reading section.