

## Guide to 16+ Assessment at CLSG

The following information is designed to give you an idea of what to expect in the CLSG 16+ entrance examinations. You will be tested in each of the four subjects you wish to study at A-Level. Each assessment lasts 45 minutes.

Subjects with a\* indicate that we would expect you to have studied this subject to GCSE level if you intend to study for A-Level. We hope all this information will help you prepare for your assessment. If you have any questions, just email our admissions team.

### **Art\***

There is no written test for this subject on exam day. Instead, candidates are asked to email photographs of a portfolio of art work. Those invited to interview will bring their portfolios in with them for discussion with our art teacher.

### **Classics: Classical Civilisation**

The assessment will consist of a passage in English from a classical text followed by comprehension-style questions. No knowledge of classical myths or history or of the text in question is needed or presumed. You will be asked to analyse aspects of the text giving evidence for your views from the passage.

### **Classics: Greek**

You will be asked to translate a short passage of GCSE standard Greek into English. Make sure you know your GCSE vocabulary (available on the exam board websites) and grammar well.

### **Classics: Latin\***

You will be asked to translate a short passage of GCSE standard Latin into English. Make sure you know your GCSE vocabulary (available on the exam board websites) and grammar well.

### **Computer Science\***

This will be a written exam in which you will be asked to:

- (a) Write short program in pseudocode including: Functions/procedures and nested loops
- (b) Identify runtime and logic errors in pseudocode and be able to use a trace table

(c) Display an understanding of parameters, arguments and data types

### **Design and Technology\***

There is no formal examination for this subject on exam day. Instead, candidates are asked to email photographs of recent pieces of DT work. Those invited for interview will bring these photographs and/or pieces, and details of the GCSE project they are working on. This may include art work, ICT work and/or D&T work from year 8-10. Candidates will be interviewed by the head of design and technology.

### **Drama and Theatre Studies\***

Candidates will be asked to write about different elements of a play or theatrical event that they have seen recently. They will be offered the choice of writing about and showing knowledge of the acting or design skills observed in the performance.

### **Economics**

The economics entrance paper tests a candidate's ability to write clearly, explain ideas fully and justify an argument logically. We realise you will not have studied economics at school yet. We therefore avoid testing candidates on specific aspects of economics, but instead recommend that you have good exposure to economic debates in the media which will help you to observe how arguments are constructed. The paper will include a passage and accompanying data about a recent economic news story. There will then be questions which test a candidate's ability to interpret this data.

### **English Literature\***

Candidates will be given an unseen piece of poetry, with an accompanying analytical written question. Candidates' potential, analytical ability and clear, supported reasoning skills are assessed.

### **Geography**

The geography examination will consist of a recent news article and accompanying data, and will ask questions relating to this. The best advice is to read the current news!

### **History: 16th century or 20th century\***

The assessment consists of a source extract and questions on a topic of which no prior knowledge is expected. There are also some general questions - you need to choose just one

to answer. Credit will be given for intelligent use of historical examples but these can come from a wide range of topics, so it does not matter what you are currently studying at school. The paper has been designed to assess students studying a range of different topics.

### **Languages: French\***

The French assessment will consist of a test of GCSE grammar, which may include tenses and agreements, and a short translation exercise.

### **Languages: German\***

Candidates will be asked to complete a range of grammar exercises on key GCSE grammar, in particular tenses, cases and word order. There is then a short writing exercise.

### **Languages: Spanish\***

Candidates should have a good command of the following grammatical tenses: present; future; conditional and past tenses (p. indefinido, imperfecto and p. perfecto). They should also be able to produce elaborated opinions and have a sound knowledge of GCSE vocabulary and further grammar points. There will also be a short writing task.

### **Languages: Mandarin Chinese\***

Candidates should be prepared to write a paragraph in Chinese about themselves, which should include a range of GCSE sentence patterns. They also need to read and answer questions on a short text and complete two translation exercises: Chinese to English and English to Chinese.

### **Mathematics and further mathematics\***

These are two separate examinations. The assessment in mathematics will contain questions on topics which candidates will have covered as part of their GCSE or equivalent course in their current school. Candidates are not expected to complete every question on the test. There will be questions on a variety of topics, some of which may be unfamiliar as the test is designed to be accessible to candidates from a wide range of schools in which topics are covered in different orders. We are looking for good solutions to the questions on topics which have been covered. Please bring your calculator.

The assessment in further mathematics will contain questions based upon knowledge of GCSE topics. We are looking for evidence of potential to think mathematically when

presented with topics in unfamiliar contexts. Please bring your calculator. You will not be expected to answer every single question.

### **Music\***

There is no written examination for this subject on exam day. Instead, candidates are asked to email a short video of a performance. Those invited for interview will then have a music audition. This audition has two components:

#### **Performance**

This will consist of playing two pieces: either two contrasting pieces on one instrument OR one piece on two instruments. The level should be Grade 7/8 Distinction with good sight-reading skills. Candidates should also bring copies of any exams taken/competitions/holiday courses (eg grade 7 or 8 Associated Board Mark Sheets etc). They can also bring any supporting documents from instrumental teachers, particularly if they do not take music exams.

#### **Academic**

Candidates wanting to take A-level music should ideally have taken GCSE music. You should bring with you a copy of one completed composition, a portfolio of work studied for GCSE, details of concerts you have been to/performed in and extra-curricular music involvement in your present school and/or out of school (eg. youth orchestras/choirs/church choirs/bands etc) plus any supporting documents from teachers.

### **Philosophy and ethics**

In the philosophy and ethics assessment candidates will be asked to read a short passage of a philosophical or ethical nature and answer a few open questions about it. They will also be given the opportunity to discuss a philosophical statement. We do not expect students to have a background of religious studies or philosophy but instead we are looking for candidates who can analyse, critique, evaluate and express informed and measured opinions about controversial issues.

### **Politics**

As this is a new subject for students, there is no specific prior knowledge required. However, given the nature of the subject, candidates will be given the opportunity to demonstrate an interest in political issues. There will be several written questions relating to current political issues facing the UK and evaluating the UK political system.

### **Science: biology\***

The biology assessment will be at GCSE level, but the questions will be general rather than referring to a specific syllabus. Most of the information needed will be in the questions and students will be expected to use this along with their knowledge of how science works to answer the questions. We understand that candidates will not have necessarily studied all topics in biology GCSE as they are only part way through year 11. Therefore, any questions will be on very basic biology learned at KS3.

### **Science: chemistry\***

The chemistry assessment will be at GCSE level, but the questions will be general rather than referring to a specific syllabus. Candidates will be expected to know core material and to be able to write formulae, balance equations, know some details about structures and bonding and chemical differences between metals and non-metals. There will also be questions where candidates are expected to apply information given in the questions and carry out some simple logical calculations.

### **Science: physics\***

The physics assessment will be at GCSE level, but the questions will be general rather than referring to a specific syllabus. There are a range of topics covered in the paper and candidates are not expected to be able to answer every question fully, as we understand that not all the topics will have been covered yet. A solid understanding of current electricity and motion will be an advantage for all candidates preparing to take the 16+ physics assessment paper.