

Guidance for Parents (FAQs)

What is the online assessment?

The online assessment is composed of two parts:

- **Part 1:** Maths, English, Non-Verbal Reasoning
- **Part 2:** Puzzles and Problem-Solving, Creative Comprehension

What is covered in Part 1?

The **Maths and English** sections are based on the **National Curriculum**. They assess your child's ability to recall what they have been taught and apply this knowledge to solve problems.

The **Non-Verbal reasoning** section is designed to test your child's **academic potential**. They assess your child's ability to solve problems with written or visual information.

Part 1	Maths	English	Non-Verbal Reasoning
What is being assessed?	Arithmetic Mathematical reasoning	Reading comprehension Spelling Punctuation Grammar	Spatial reasoning Visual reasoning

What is covered in Part 2?

The **Puzzles and Problem-Solving** section encourages your child to think deeply about a scenario and apply mathematical techniques to solve a problem.

The **Creative Comprehension** section assesses your child's ability to read and analyse a series of written sources and graphs that are centred around a theme.

Part 2	Puzzles and Problem-Solving	Creative Comprehension
What is being assessed?	Multi-step problem solving Logical reasoning	Extracting information Synthesising information to form a conclusion

Is the assessment adaptive?

Adaptive

The Maths and Non-Verbal Reasoning sections of the assessment are **adaptive**. This means that questions will get harder or easier as a child moves through the assessment. This ensures that each question is at the right level of difficulty for each student.

Please note, students will not be able to skip or go back to any questions. They will also be unable to change any of their answers.

Non-Adaptive

The English, Creative Comprehension and Puzzles and Problem-Solving sections of the assessment are **non-adaptive**. This means that all students will see the same questions, although some will progress further through the questions than others.

Please note, students will have the ability to move backwards and forwards through questions, and will be able to change their answers.

How long is the assessment?

The assessment takes a total of 95 minutes (1 hour and 35 minutes). The timings of each subject component are:

Part 1	
Maths	20 minutes
NVR	10 minutes
English	30 minutes
<i>Students will have a short break between taking Part 1 and Part 2 of the assessment.</i>	
Part 2	
Puzzles and Problem-Solving	15 minutes
Creative Comprehension	20 minutes

During the assessment, students will see a **timer** on their screen showing them how long they have left for each section. It will be visible but not so large as to distract them from their work.

Students eligible for **extra time** will be asked to indicate their entitlement at the point of application to The King's School. Where extra time is approved for a student, the additional time will be automatically added to the timer visible on their screen for each section of their assessment.

How to prepare for the assessment

We recommend that all students look at the familiarisation materials provided:

<https://app.atomlearning.com/public/taster/the-kings-school-chester>

The assessment will test the knowledge and skills highlighted in the **National Curriculum**. Students will develop these skills as part of their school education, so they will not need any special tuition or intensive practice.

FAQs

Is the assessment multiple-choice?

The majority of questions will be **multiple-choice**, with only a few questions requiring a student to type a single word or number. There is no extended typing exercise required, so typing ability will not impact results.

What device can be used for the assessment?

The assessment can be taken on many different types of devices, including iPads, PCs, laptops, tablets and Chromebooks. A suitable device will be provided by the school.

What can my child use during the assessment?

Students will be permitted blank scrap paper and a pencil/pen in all subjects for any working out. Students may not use any other additional materials during any stage of the assessment, e.g. dictionaries, thesauruses, calculators, rulers, mobile phones, etc.

My child is an overseas applicant. Where will they take the assessment?

Students who are living overseas may take the assessment under exam conditions at their current school or at a test centre. Please contact the Admissions Manager for more information on how to proceed.