

St Faith's
C A M B R I D G E



Sample English Paper
for entry into
Year 8

St Faith's Entry Assessments in English

All pupils seeking to come to St Faith's undertake an age-standardised assessment test which is appropriate to the Year they wish to enter.

What does the test comprise of?

- *Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar exercises. (SPaG)
- *Multiple-choice comprehension in response to a passage of fiction and a passage of non-fiction.
- *Some more extended written responses based on the same passages.
- *A written task appropriate for the age group.

What does the test assess?

Reading processes

- i) Retrieval of information
- ii) Simple inference
- iii) Complex inference
- iv) Authorial techniques

Writing skills

- i) Spelling
- ii) Grammar – punctuation
- iii) Grammar – consistency eg tenses
- iv) Composition and effect
- v) Text organisation
- vi) Sentence structure
- vii) Vocabulary

Examples of the kind of written tasks undertaken, are provided.

Entry into Year 8

English test

In addition to the accuracy tests (grammar, spelling and punctuation) and reading comprehension test, candidates will also be required to produce a piece of free writing; a choice of tasks will be given, examples of which are shown below. Marks will be awarded for how imaginative and interesting the piece is, how well it is structured into paragraphs, the variety and control of sentences, and the richness and appropriateness of vocabulary used.

Example

Choose ONE of the following to write about:

1. Write a speech persuading people of the importance of recycling.
2. Write a description of the approach of dusk, sunset and nightfall.
3. Write a letter thanking a visiting author for having come to your school to talk about his books.