

Welcome!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to our tuition centre and the beginning of what we hope will be an enjoyable and fulfilling year at 'Twist'.

This sheet is designed to give you a little more information about your child's tuition at 'Twist' during Year 5 and to answer some of the most common questions and queries. Should you have any concerns which are not covered then please don't hesitate to ask.

The Buckinghamshire Transfer Tests

It was announced in 2017 that the Bucks Grammar Schools had awarded a new testing contract to GL Assessment, a change from the previous providers, CEM. GL Assessment will provide the tests and Buckinghamshire County Council will continue to administer them. The new tests started in September 2018 and we are not expecting further changes prior to the tests expected to be taken in September 2021.

The GL Assessment tests will assess verbal, mathematical and non-verbal skills. The children will sit a practice test and then two test papers. A familiarisation paper will be provided to all parents.

Full details about the testing arrangements are published on the Bucks Grammar Schools website (www.thebucksgrammarschools.org/the-secondary-transfer-test).

Our course syllabus reflects the content of the GL Assessment tests. Tuition materials are regularly reviewed and improved upon and we will continue to adapt as necessary to closely match the testing regime.

Course Materials

All course materials will be provided, however, due to Covid restrictions your child needs to bring two HB pencils, a rubber, a ballpoint/rollerball pen and a small pack of tissues in a small bag or pencil case and a water bottle. Please do not bring any more stationery than this. We recommend that each child has their own dictionary and thesaurus at home to help with their set work.

We ask that you do not allow your child to bring snacks or sweets to their tuition session.

Term Themes

The children work hard throughout the course so we aim to make the sessions as much fun as possible by having a theme/incentive scheme for each term. We'll tell the children the theme at the beginning of each term.

Term Dates

A list of term dates for the full course to September 2021 is published on the website at www.twistintheale.co.uk.

Your child's start date has been provided via email.

Homework

Homework will be given each week and will increase in difficulty and time commitment as the year progresses. During the first term homework exercises are designed to take no longer than **40 minutes** per week to complete. Please help your child to remember to bring their completed homework to their next session so that it can be marked. Marked homework will be returned the following week and we would ask that you check any corrections that your child is asked to complete.

If your child is unable to attend a tuition session then please try to let us know in advance. Due to current DfE guidelines, we are not permitted to mix groups and therefore it will not be possible to arrange an alternative session. We will email the homework for that week.