

Sample Independent School Questions and

Answers Hints & Tips

Why would you like to come to THIS senior school?

- Look through the prospectus and website together with your child and write down the things that appeal about the school:
 - What are the particular strengths and how do these match the talents or interests of your child?
 - Have you heard about its reputation for a certain subject or extra-curricular opportunity from relatives, friends?
 - Did dad or grandpa attend and why is it important to follow in their footsteps? Is there a sibling at the school?
 - Does the setting, historical features or facilities appeal?
 - Is it a single sex/boarding/religious affiliation school and why do you think that this appeals to you in terms of your education?

What can YOU offer to the school?

- What academic subjects do you enjoy most?
- What are you currently learning in one or two of these and why does this interest you?
- Are you involved in sport, music, drama, art, design and technology etc and what have you achieved in these?
- What would you like to achieve in the future and what new things would you like to try? Do your family have strengths, achievements, contributions to make to the school community?
- Have you raised money for charity, been part of the school food committee or been a prefect or house captain?

What can you tell me about your current school?

- Size, co-ed/single sex/boarding/day.
- Setting, atmosphere (eg friendly)
- Breadth of subjects and extra-curricular opportunities
- Is there anything you dislike? (briefly, don't dwell on this)

- What might you change about your current school if you had the opportunity?
- What happens during a typical school day/week/weekend?
- Describe a situation that you have found difficult and how did you resolve it, find a solution?

What are your hobbies/interests outside school?

- Be prepared to talk in detail about these. E.g. not just naming them but expand on them to tell the interviewer how you are involved, how often and when.
- What is your favourite hobby and why?
- Do you have a favourite book, what is the story about and why do you like it?
- If you had 2 hours of free time, what would you do with it?

Current affairs

- Make sure you are aware of the top stories of what is happening in the news at the current time. (UK, Europe and Worldwide). Form an opinion and why have you formed it?
- Do you read a paper?
- Do you listen to the news or watch the news on TV