

## An Introduction to ISEB

The Independent Schools Examinations Board is probably best known for producing the Common Entrance examinations which boys and girls sit to gain entry to some of the best independent schools in the UK and overseas. The examinations are set by highly qualified and experienced teachers from the country's leading schools and are widely regarded as the gold standard for assessment at 11+ and 13+.

The Board is made up of Heads from leading independent schools in the UK who are in membership of one of its three Patron Associations: of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC), the Girls' Schools Association (GSA) and the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS).

ISEB sets the syllabuses and examinations for Common Entrance at 11+, 13+ and the Common Academic Scholarship Exam (CASE), which your child may take to gain entry to his or her chosen secondary school.

If your child is taking Common Entrance at 11+, he or she will be expected to sit examinations in the core subjects - English, Mathematics and Science. At 13+, many schools require pupils to be tested on a wider range of subjects including History, Geography, Religious Studies and a modern foreign language (French, Spanish or German). Other options include Latin, and Classical Greek. In addition to the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science, most senior schools expect the majority of candidates to sit at least the humanities papers and a language.

If you are not already familiar with the examinations your child will be sitting, we recommend you talk to the senior school your child is applying to join.

## Syllabuses

ISEB also sets the syllabuses for Common Entrance. The syllabuses contain specific information about each subject, including the aims and objectives of what will be covered during the course, and the assessment policy for the exam paper. Up-to-date Common Entrance syllabuses are available free of charge from the ISEB website [www.iseb.co.uk](http://www.iseb.co.uk)

## Common Entrance examination papers

Galore Park is the official distributor of ISEB Common Entrance papers for 11+ and 13+ and for the Common Academic Scholarship papers. It sells these examination papers directly to parents. You can look at the selection of papers available to you on the Galore Park website [www.galorepark.co.uk](http://www.galorepark.co.uk)