

11+ Parent Perspective

What is it all about?

- ▶ Its all about Secondary school choices
 - ▶ Comprehensive schools
 - ▶ Grammar schools
 - ▶ Independent schools

Is it for my child?

- ▶ Most parents will know-but you may need some help to confirm
- ▶ You need a combination of information to give you a good indication eg: school report, reading age, SATS, parental assessment.
- ▶ Tutoring can strengthen their weak areas. However if the gap is wide then it may not be possible. Be realistic.
- ▶ Engage your child. Explain the different options available.
- ▶ Remember though...passing the 11+ is only the start of it. Some children do better when they work at their own natural pace and succeed in a less pressurised environment.

When to start

- ▶ You can start as early as you want. I don't mean any formal tuition.
- ▶ Instill the love of reading, as it will help increase vocabulary and comprehension skills.
- ▶ Do all sorts of puzzles with them
- ▶ Everyday problem solving

When to start.....

- ▶ Best age to start any formal work is from year 4 (8-9 years)
- ▶ If choosing to tutor, then ensure you have secured a tutor for the start of Year 4
- ▶ If you are tutoring your child yourself, then do a placement test (available from BOND book- The Parents' Guide to the 11+)
- ▶ This will give you a pretty good idea where your child is and what level books to start.
- ▶ The placement test will also highlight the strong and weak subjects.

Books recommendation

- ▶ In most book stores, you will find sections/walls dedicated to 11+
- ▶ The main books that most parents agree on:
 1. Bond books
 2. Mental Arithmetic by Schofield and Simms
 3. CGP 11+ books
 4. The New First Aid in English
 5. Verbal Reasoning Techniques by Susan Daughtrey

Mock Exams

- ▶ Another thing to consider is Mock exams.
- ▶ Helps to familiarise with format, content and setting of exam
- ▶ They normally start from September of Year 5 and run throughout the year.
- ▶ They can be from free to £50-100
- ▶ www.11plus.co.uk
- ▶ www.11plusDIY.co.uk
- ▶ www.ksol.co.uk

Key tips

- ▶ Organised
- ▶ Ring fence time...make a timetable
- ▶ Little and often (How do you eat an elephant....)
- ▶ Love of reading from a very young age
- ▶ Be positive, supportive and encouraging. Work hard, and then leave the rest to Allah
- ▶ If its not for your child, then please have the courage to accept it!