

Year 5 Secondary Transfer Meeting

27.01.26



St Christopher's
THE HALL SCHOOL



Dates: Assessments and Applications

Grammar: Assessments - September 2026
Applications - June/July 2026

Independent: Assessments - November - January
2026/2027

Applications: October/November 2026/2027

State Schools - Applications: October 2026



We ask that you also promote the above and work with your child or children to build self-esteem, resilience and confidence, as well as listen to advice from the staff at St Christopher's.

Self-Esteem

Confidence

Resilience

Positive
Mindset



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Transition Model for Year 5 and 6

Year 5: 11+ Transfer meeting - Joint Parents' evening with the Year 5 teachers - Secondary meeting (Online in the Summer Term with Mr Carter, Miss Rule and external Headteacher)

Year 6: Secondary School information evening at the beginning of the year with further details about the process - Two parent meetings with the Year 6 team - Meeting with Mr Carter.

Where is the right school for your child? Take time to research schools - Look on the school's websites for key dates and information.

We will support, advise and work collaboratively with you. Please listen and take on our advice as we know your children.

Do not compare your child to anyone else; your child's learning journey is personal to them. Not all schools will be suitable for your child's needs.

We will provide you with key dates and guidance with the school selection process.



Overview

Spring 2026: Small group teaching (Maths and English), VR/NVR (BOFA, Atom) after February half term, current affairs, secondary transfer meeting, mock exam online for Maths and English.

Summer 2026: Small group teaching, VR/NVR, interview technique, mock exam for Maths and English, visit schools/open mornings, applications for Grammar Schools.

Autumn 2026: Small group teaching, VR/NVR, interview technique, interview preparation with external headteacher.

Mock exam for English and maths - to get a sense of an exam room environment.

Transfer reports written and sent to independent schools.

Meetings with Year 6 teachers (September and October)

Individual meeting with Mr Carter

Further Open mornings and applications to schools.

Spring 2027: Whole class teaching, project work, St John Ambulance, interviews/scholarship days/results, transition project, trips/production.



Grammar Schools

Please inform myself or Mr Carter if you are considering a Grammar or Super Selective school so we can advise on suitability.

A Grammar School support group will run in the Summer term for families who proceed.

Apply for a Grammar school only if it is your genuine first choice.

Many Grammar schools are not local; consider travel time and the importance of local friendships, especially in teenage years.

If you do not intend your child to attend a Grammar school, we do not recommend applying. Grammar tests are demanding and using them as practice can cause unnecessary stress.

Pass marks change yearly and cannot be guaranteed - may become more selected due to VAT increase on independent schools.

Schools do not interview or liaise with Headteachers; admission is based solely on test performance.

Super Selective schools are extremely competitive and admit only the highest academic performers.



Grammar Schools

Newstead woods: <https://www.newsteadwood.co.uk/admissions/admissions>

St Olaves: <https://www.saintolaves.net/4205/key-dates-1>

Kent Grammar: [Secondary determined scheme for 2026](#)

Bexley Grammar:

<https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/selection-tests/register-secondary-selection-test>

Sutton Grammar:

<https://www.suttongrammar.sutton.sch.uk/admissions/selective-eligibility-test-examination/#:~:text=Registration%20for%20the%20Selective%20Eligibility,regarding%20the%20Selective%20Eligibility%20Test>



Independent Schools

Independent schools each have their own application process.

Some use a two-stage process (exam then recall), while others combine exam and interview on the same day.

Application deadlines are usually late October/ early November.

Entrance exams typically take place in November, December and January.

Parents should check individual school websites for exact deadlines and procedures.

This year, we have gathered extensive information from schools our pupils have applied to, including exam formats (digital or paper-based).

This allows us to tailor preparation and better support pupils for next year's exams.

Entrance thresholds have changed slightly in recent years due to rising fees and increased competition for places.



Scholarships

Academic scholarships are invited back automatically or offered based on their exam result.

Music, Sports and Performing Arts Scholarships are a discount off the fees.

Please speak to the Head of Prep for support and advice if you thinking about applying for a scholarship. We will endorse it as we have a professional trust and reputation with schools. Please check the requirement/expectation for a scholarship application. Each school will have their own criteria.

These extra days for the scholarship are on top of the exam. A huge amount of responsibility and commitment will be required if your child is successful. Please consider whether this is the right option for your child; they may want to explore other aspects within school and find other interests.

Application for a scholarship does not impact exam result or overall outcome.

Scholarships are for those who really excel in that particular curriculum area. Please take the advice from the specialist teachers, Mr Carter and Miss Rule.

We send applications and references directly to the school. Parents do not see or send these beforehand.



Quick Reference Guide

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Super Selective 135 +	Highly Selective 125 - 135	Selective + 115 - 125	Selective 110 - 115	Broad Ability 95 - 110
St Olaves	City of London for Boys	JAGS	Dulwich Prep	Blackheath High
Newstead Woods	Dulwich College	St Dunstan's	Whitgift	Sydenham High
St Paul's Girls	St Paul's Boys		Bromley High	Babington House
	City of London for Girls		Croydon High	Bickley Park
	Alleyns		Walthamstow Hall	Caterham
	Eltham College		Colfe's	Farringdon
	Grammar (Kent/Sutton/Bexley)		Woldingham	Fidelis
	Trinity			Radnor House
			↓	Royal Russell

Boys

Girls

CoEd

St Dunstan's Group

Mr Carter and Miss Rule will meet with the SLT from St Dunstan's and Rosemead.

With our data, we can put forward students to be offered automatic places for September 2026
(They will have to meet the minimum standardised mean score of 115 to be offered a place)

The offers will be sent out during the Summer term - this may support you with a decision as to whether you want to apply for other schools/11+

All pupils can apply for a place if they are not initially offered one.

You will need to apply for a scholarship (Sport, Art, Performing Arts, Music) through the normal process; these are not given automatically.

Academic Scholarships: Children will be invited for assessment in January 2027.



Relationship with Schools

Miss Rule and Mr Carter have built and continue to build excellent relationships with all local Independent Secondary schools.

Feedback from Secondary Schools: St Christopher's students are well respected and highly sought after.

We keep up to date with entry procedures and expectations; we adapt our examination practice accordingly, providing a bespoke curriculum and experience for all of our children at St Christopher's.

We have excellent communication channels: SLT and the Year 6 teachers will have met and have communicated with a number of teachers involved with secondary transitions.

Mr. Carter will speak with admissions and headteachers before and after exam results and interviews.



Next Steps and Top Tips

Begin to look at websites of schools you may wish your child to look around and apply for.

Start considering school options for your child and going to open days without them – Parental decision.
(Visit schools with your child in Year 6)

Discuss Grammar School options with Miss Rule and Mr Carter. Look at dates and application deadlines.

Keep an open mind throughout – your child may change their mind during the process.

Do not apply for schools to ‘Practice’. This can have a negative impact on your child.

Apply for the Grammar and Independent schools that are suitable for your child - the right school, not the best school.

Tutors can help with technique, timing and support – please speak to Mr Carter or Miss Rule for advice.

Do not overload your child with endless test papers – this may lead to stress and anxiety.

Speak positively and openly about all schools especially in front of your child.

Stay calm – if in doubt, please ask for support.



Thank you for attending



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