

## **A Guide to Choosing the Right Slough Consortium Grammar School for Your Child at 11+ From Sophia**

There are currently four grammar schools in the Slough Grammar School Consortium. For 11 Plus and admissions information about each specific school, please visit the pages below.

### **Registering your child:**

To apply for a Year 7 place at a Slough grammar school, parents must register their child with the Slough Consortium before October. The next step is for parents to complete a Common Application Form (CAF) before June, which can be done online via the Slough County Council website.

Year 7 admissions to Slough grammar schools are coordinated through the Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools and parents must register online ahead of their child's 11+ exam date in September

### **Exam format:**

The Slough 11 Plus exam consists of two papers that last approximately 60-65 minutes each. All four schools within the Slough Consortium use the same test papers, which test children's Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numerical Reasoning skills.

Parents will receive the results of their child's 11+ exam online in October, and final Year 7 place allocations will be published in March.

### **Guide to the Entrance Exams for 2020**

<https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/sh-herschel-slough-sch-uk/media/downloads/Slough%20Consortium%20of%20Grammar%20Schools%20Guide%20to%20the%2011%20test%20for%20entry%20in%202020.pdf>

### **Key Dates for 2020**

<https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/sh-herschel-slough-sch-uk/media/downloads/KEY%20DATES%202020%20ENTRY.pdf>

### **A presentation setting out the process for the 11+ examination**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOEe1IG0Ky0&feature=youtu.be>

## **Steps into choosing the right school for your children:**

1/ Read carefully the Sophia Guide of the Slough Consortium grammar schools, and digest all the key data.

2/ Decide what is important to you. Type of school, location, its academic results, its facilities, its extracurricular activities, its fees etc.?

3/ Download the Inspection report of each of these schools – this gives a flavour of the school; what they do well and the areas they need to develop.

4/ Visit the school on of their Open days/evenings – this will be on their website.

5/ Book a personal visit to the school – read my article below on the sorts of things you should be looking out for:

<https://www.sophia.app/sophia-articles/sophia-article-open-day.html>

6/ Once you have chosen your school apply/register for it, via Slough County Council - closing date normally October. (See above)

7/ Register for the exams via the Slough Consortium of Grammar schools (see above)

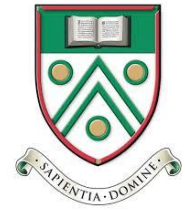
8/ Practise, practise, practise those 11+ papers – I have included many samples of these (see profiles of the schools below).

9/ Hire a tutor for 1-to-1 sessions with your children. This will give them the best possibility of passing these exams. At Sophia, we have experienced and qualified teachers who have a track-record helping students get into their senior schools.

With Sophia you can book bespoke and individualised 1-to-1 tuition for your child, or you can join our 11+ Virtual School (where we have maximum class sizes of two students per teacher). To book click on the hyperlink below:

<https://www.sophia.app/>

## Langley Grammar School Co-Educational – Langley



### Description:

Langley Grammar School selects its incoming students on the basis of examined ability, at age 11 by NFER 11+ examination or for Sixth Form by performance at GCSE and interview. 70% of pupils come from outside of the LAA, with many from Hillingdon. The school was founded in 1956 by Buckinghamshire County Council; Slough and Langley at that time being in Buckinghamshire. The founding Headmaster was Mr J. G. Day. Since 1 April 2011 the school has been an Academy Trust and a Charitable Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales.

Langley Grammar School has recently sold tracts of land at the end of the former school field to fund building and restoration works including, amongst others, a new teaching block of six classrooms, a sports hall, fitness suite, multi-purpose area, and astro-turf pitch. On 11 September 2006, the new Sports Hall was officially opened by the mayor of Slough. A new sixth form centre was completed in August 2007, which was opened on 28 September 2007 by Princess Anne.

**Address:** Reddington Dr, Langley, Slough SL3 7QS

**Website:** <https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/>

### Inspection report:

<https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/files/EA236C57C6925579D6F1907CFF4B6BFD.pdf>

**Type of School:** Co-educational grammar school 11-18

**Results:** In 2019, at A Level, 35% of entries were awarded A\* or A.  
In 2019, at GCSE, 64% of all results were Grade 9-7 (A\* or A).

**Entrance Exams:** The Consortium 11+ entrance examination is provided by the Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) at the University of Cambridge. The examination consists of two separate papers, each of approximately 60-65minutes duration, containing a variety of questions which will test verbal, numerical and non-verbal ability.

### Sample Papers:

<https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=841&type=pdf>

**Date of Entrance Exam:** September 2021 (tbc)

### Admissions:

<https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/page/?title=11%2B+admissions+process+%2D+September+2021+admission&pid=49>

## Herschel Grammar School Co-Educational – Slough



### Description:

The school was established in town centre buildings formerly occupied by Slough Secondary School in William Street (a site later occupied by the Slough campus of Thames Valley University) in about 1952. In 1958, the school moved to a purpose-built site on Northampton Avenue, occupying land that had (before the Second World War) been used as 'Timbertown', an area of temporary houses.[2] The school has remained at Northampton Avenue, although for the 1988/89 academic year it temporarily moved to the site of the former Orchard Secondary Modern School while the permanent buildings were refurbished after damage to the roof in the storms of 1987.[3]

In 2004, the school completed a sports centre, which now serves as Herschel Sports to the public when out of school hours. The sports complex includes a full-size astro-turf football, hockey pitch, four full-size tennis courts, six full-size indoor badminton courts, one full-size indoor basketball court, a dance studio and changing facilities with lockers.

Herschel Grammar School is part of the Schelwood Trust: an educational trust comprising Beechwood School and Herschel Grammar School. Herschel Grammar School was a founding member-school of the Herschel Consortium - a co-operation of the sixth forms of Herschel Grammar School, The Westgate School and Baylis Court School, all of which are within the same district of Slough.

**Address:** Northampton Avenue, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 3BW

**Website:** <https://www.herschel.slough.sch.uk/>

**Inspection report:** <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/2074883>

**Type of School:** Co-educational grammar school 11-18

**Results:** In 2019, at A Level, 39% of entries were awarded A\* or A.  
In 2019, at GCSE, 69% of all results were Grade 9-7 (A\* or A).

**Entrance Exams:** The Consortium 11+ entrance examination is provided by the Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) at the University of Cambridge. The examination consists of two separate papers, each of approximately 60-65minutes duration, containing a variety of questions which will test verbal, numerical and non-verbal ability.

### Sample Papers:

<https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=841&type=pdf>

**Date of Entrance Exam:** September 2021. Arrangements are subject to government advice and guidance and will be confirmed in due course.

### Admissions:

<https://www.herschel.slough.sch.uk/School-Information/Admissions-2/Year-7-Admissions-2021>

## St. Bernard's Grammar School Co-Educational - Slough



### Description:

St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School (formerly St Bernard's Convent School) is an academically selective Roman Catholic grammar school on Langley Road, Slough, Langley, Berkshire. It was previously designated as a Humanities College. The student body is divided into four different houses - Annay, Clairvaux, Cîteaux and La Plaine. The houses are named after various monastic houses, relating to the school's history. The school's motto is "Dieu Mon Abri", which means "God is my Shelter". The crest is a diamond, with three parallel, diagonal, swords on a blue background. The school has been given an "outstanding" by Ofsted and constantly tops school leader boards, its recent 2018 and 2019 GCSE results putting the school academically in the top 1% of the country.

The school is unique in being the only mixed, Catholic, state, voluntary-aided grammar school in the country. Four out of five students are Roman Catholic, some of whom travel from outside the local authority. Close to 70% of students are from White British, Irish or other White backgrounds with small percentages from several minority ethnic groups. The proportion of students with special educational needs and/or disabilities is very low, as is the proportion of students known to be eligible for free school meals. There are more girls than boys in the school, especially in Years 7 and 10. The school was awarded Artsmark Silver in 2010 and FairTrade status was re-awarded in 2011. The school retains a focus on its humanities specialist subjects of English, history and religious education.

**Address:** 1 Langley Rd, Slough, SL3 7AF

**Website:** <http://www.st-bernards.slough.sch.uk/>

**Inspection report:** <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/1982099>

**Type of School:** Co-educational grammar school 11-18

**Results:** In 2019, at A Level, 39% of entries were awarded A\* or A. – not reported on website– only report A\*-B (65%)

In 2019, at GCSE, 61% of all results were Grade 9-7 (A\* or A).

**Entrance Exams:** The Consortium 11+ entrance examination is provided by the Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) at the University of Cambridge. The examination consists of two separate papers, each of approximately 60-65minutes duration, containing a variety of questions which will test verbal, numerical and non-verbal ability.

### Sample Papers:

<https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=841&type=pdf>

**Date of Entrance Exam:** September 2021 (tbc)

**Admissions:** <http://www.st-bernards.slough.sch.uk/793/year-7-admissions-2021-entry>

## Upton Court Grammar School Co-Ed Slough

**Description:**

Upton Court Grammar School is a fully selective academy school in Lascelles Road, Slough, and Berkshire). The school has specialisms in languages and science. It is also a Leading Edge School, an ICT-Focus School, a Training School, an International School under the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) and a participant in the Primary Language Initiative. From September 2004 it offered some International Baccalaureate courses alongside its conventional secondary and sixth form courses, but these are now discontinued.

In April 2014 a team of registered inspectors conducted a two-day full review of Upton Court Grammar School following the Ofsted framework for inspection of schools. The school was given an overall rating of "Outstanding", although the Sixth Form was only rated "Good", with serious concerns raised over the number of students unable to progress from AS level to A2 level studies due to poor grades. Upton Court Grammar is known as a multicultural school that has achieved a remarkably happy coexistence of students from diverse ethnic backgrounds. The school is committed to its international school status, and to the understanding of other cultures as well as other languages. The 2008 OFSTED inspection report describes Slough Grammar as "outstanding" the 2011 OFSTED interim assessment confirms that the standards are unchanged. The IB courses offered put it into a different category for 6th form league tables. The IB results were strong in 2006 and this has had a slight knock on effect in reducing the overall grade spread at A level. As of 2013, the IB courses have been discontinued.

**Address:** Lascelles Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL3 7PR

**Website:** <http://www.uptoncourtgrammar.org.uk/>

**Inspection report:** <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/885873>

**Type of School:** Co-educational grammar school 11-18

**Results:** In 2019, at A Level, % not listed on website of entries were awarded A\* or A. In 2019, at GCSE, 59% of all results were Grade 9-7 (A\* or A).

**Entrance Exams:** The Consortium 11+ entrance examination is provided by the Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) at the University of Cambridge. The examination consists of two separate papers, each of approximately 60-65minutes duration, containing a variety of questions which will test verbal, numerical and non-verbal ability.

**Sample Papers:**

<https://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=841&type=pdf>

**Date of Entrance Exam:** September 2021 (tbc)

**Admissions:** <http://www.uptoncourtgrammar.org.uk/year7-entry-september-2021>