

The Doon School

A Guide to the Admission Process-2021



Our Mission

• To attract and develop exceptional Boys and Masters

from all backgrounds

• to serve a meritocratic India





What we are looking for...

- General proficiency in English, Mathematics, Reasoning & Case study response and Scientific Temperament
- Curiosity, enthusiasm and a desire to learn
- Valuable contribution to a classroom, society, House and team
- A willingness to question what they know and look beyond themselves
- Being reflective



What we are NOT looking for and our advice...

- Programmed and tutor coached candidates who help them 'crack' the admissions test and GD
- Parents should invest their time rather than their money in helping their child prepare for admission



Admission Tests Overview

- English, Mathematics, Reasoning & Case Studies and Scientific Temperament
- For Hindi proficiency we assess students once they join the School and curate a learning plan accordingly
- We are looking for evidence of how boys think and whether they are able to express their thinking clearly
- We will give opportunities for boys to demonstrate their understanding and think creatively



Admission Test: English

Keeping the nature of institutional legacy in academic excellence and the international curricula in mind, the written test of English, primarily, aims at assessing the candidate's linguistic and literary competencies which meet the desired benchmark of intellectual curiosity in the making of an 'exceptional boy'.



English: skill sets

- Are they able to read and follow instructions
- Can they choose appropriate task-based language
- Can they express themselves clearly
- Do they have a sense of logic, cause and effect Are they able to engage with what they read
- Can they undertake writing task/s where expression of thoughts, feelings and opinions are clear



Admission Test: Mathematics

The test is designed to engage students in problem solving, communication, making connections, spotting patterns, reasoning, and representation. Mathematics provides a strong focus on fluency, emphasis on the concrete, the importance of the abstract, outlook on relevance and reflection, specialized vocabulary, dimension on graphs, etc.



Mathematics: skill sets

- Do they understand numbers, angles, proportions and shapes
- Can they translate a visual representation into words
- Can they spot patterns and make connections
- Can they interpret and represent data
- Can they apply a formula to different situations



Admission Test: Reasoning and Case Study

The Reasoning and Case Study paper aims at exploring the personality of the applicant. It is designed to help applicants share their strengths, interests, values and areas for growth. There are no right and wrong answers, however, the intent is to analyze critical and out of the box thinking. We will also give them something to look and to read and then ask for their response to it from a social, ethical and emotional perspective. The best approach is to be real and authentic in your responses.



Reasoning and Case Study: skill sets

- Can they read an article and understand the order of events
- Can they distinguish fact from opinion and judgment
- Can they recognize the roles and responsibilities of people involved
- Can they justify their own view
- Do they have a sense of ethics and empathy
- Is the candidate willing to be in a boarding school



Admission Test: Science Component skill sets

- Knowledge & understanding, thinking skills, analytical skills, and numerical ability
- Ability to recall and apply formulae, handling of instruments and information; measurement techniques
- Interpreting data & trends, Interdisciplinary relationship, collaborative skills
- Knowledge Systems particularly in Indian context
- Sustainable Development Goals & Futuristic Skills



School Reports: What Counts?

- Schools report in all sorts of ways
- Evidence of student engagement in the classroom and of consistent practice and improvement
- Evidence of having an impact on the school community
- Correspondence between the scores on our tests and their English and Maths scores in school
- Co-curricular activities mentioned in the reports



Supporting Documents

- Evidence of competing at district, state or national level
- We are not looking for piles of participation certificates at school level



Group Discussions

- A conversation with a group of 4 boys
- SC Form (Class XII) students are part of the panel
- Looking for boys who can listen to others, share an opinion and find out what others think
- Demonstrate critical reasoning
- Recognition of divergent views
- Prepared to make a guess and apply what they know to something unfamiliar
- Not being afraid to be wrong



What we asked previously

- We asked them what they had learned from what they read
- We showed them different images and asked them what they think about the images and what the images say
- We showed them some short film clippings and asked them to explain what they think about and have a conversation about them
- We asked them to comment what the other person thinks about the images and clippings



What we asked previously

- To make improvements to another person's views
- We asked them to comment on what the other person had said and how they can improve it
- We asked them to look at photographs of things going on in the world and talk to us about what they saw
- We asked them what they love to do and why



Our mission is:

"To attract and develop exceptional boys and teachers from all backgrounds to serve a meritocratic India; inspire them to be just and ethical citizens; train them to be wise and principled leaders; and prepare them to enter one of the strongest alumni fraternities – for life"



- Exceptional: standing out without stopping others from shining
- Diverse: bringing something different to the table and being prepared to share it
- Meritorious: being good at something they do and allowing others to be good at something they do-free of entitlement and arrogance



- Inspirational: positively influential in a group and sharing with others an infectious enthusiasm, joy and curiosity
- Just & Ethical: able to articulate the dilemmas of life and act on a visible moral compass, even when no one is looking
- Trainable: open minded and lifelong learners



- Wisdom: willing to learn from their experiences, mistakes and failures as well as those of others
- Principled: able to be upstanding, to support others who are in need and to call others out on their actions and choices when needed
- Brotherly: able to give care and support to another in a way that is both honest and kind



Admissions Timeline-2021

- The School has decided to conduct the admission test in the **first** week of December 2021.
- The School will provide the parents of registered candidates more details in the weeks ahead.



The process of offering a place

- The assessment of the first round will be based on the candidate's performance in the test and the subject specialist's assessment. Successful candidates based on cut-off in the first round of our admission process will be invited for an interview/interaction.
- The number of candidates called for the interview would be roughly twice the number of places available
- This cut-off may vary from year to year as the performance of the candidates varies, too



The process of offering a place

- As a policy we do not disclose the marks achieved in the tests.
 Only those qualified will be called for the interviews
- The interview will be in the form of group discussion
- Weightage is given to the different elements of the process. To reiterate, we will not be disclosing results, only the offer of a place to selected candidates. You will be informed of our decision to offer a place at The Doon School a few days after completion of the admission process
- The School will be communicating with further instructions in due course



For queries related to admissions, please mail us at

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