



Boston High School
LEADING LEARNING TOGETHER

BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL'S 11 + SURVIVAL GUIDE

FOR PARENTS/CARERS

You must register online to take the 11+ test at Boston High School.

Please see our school website to apply.

This guide will cover:

- **The Process**
- **Differences in paper style**
- **Additional resources to support**
- **Important dates**
- **Top Tips to support your child**
- **The next steps after results**
- **Contact details of Boston High School**
- **Lincolnshire Admissions**

The Process

We are part of the Lincolnshire Grammar Schools Consortium and we use the same test across our schools.

Standardisation involves uplifting the scores of younger pupils on an 'age-weighting' basis and then comparing all the pupils' scores with the 'top 25%' in the county of any year group being selected to go into the Grammar Schools.

In order to make the system fairer locally, and to ensure that Boston children have at least 25% access to their grammar schools, we have opted both to use the standardisation process the same as the other Lincolnshire Grammar schools, but also to set our own entry level, solely for Boston High School. This is done on an annual basis.

V^{erbal Reasoning Paper}

- Timed paper – 50 minutes
- 85 questions in total
- Written in pencil
- Instructions for the paper are read aloud to the pupils while they follow on their own paper
- A separate sheet will be provided for ‘rough working’ which is not submitted
- Once the questions are completed, the student may return to a previous section to check answers
- Examples are completed during the exam and the correct answers given, so students can see what is expected of them during the paper

EXAMPLE:

In these questions one letter can be moved from the first word to the second word to make two new words. The letters must NOT otherwise be rearranged and both new words must make sense. Find the letter that moves and mark it on the answer sheet

Example: **pound (and) or**

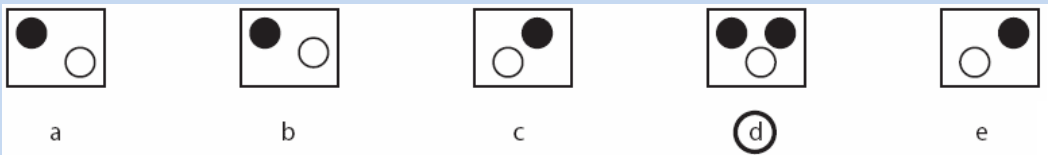
Answer: **‘u’ (The two new words are pond and our)**

N on verbal Reasoning Paper

- 5 Timed sections
- 14 questions in each, 7 minutes per section
- Written in pencil
- Instructions for the paper are read aloud to the pupils while they follow on their own paper
- Before the actual paper starts, students will have the opportunity to work through an example for each section and the invigilator will tell them the correct answer.
- Practise these areas: - Shape, Symmetry, Position, Angle, Number, Shading, Size, Spatial Reasoning.

EXAMPLE:

Find the odd one out



There are three circles inside rectangle 'd'. The others have two. So, the answer is D.

Additional resources



Free Apps to download:

Available practice packs to buy:

11+ Practice Papers Non-Verbal Reasoning Pack 1 (Multiple Choice)	9780708727645
11+ Practice Papers Non-Verbal Reasoning Pack 2 (Multiple Choice)	9780708727652
11+ Practice Papers Non-Verbal Reasoning Pack 3 (Multiple Choice)	9780708727669
11+ Practice Papers Verbal Reasoning Pack 1 (Multiple Choice)	9780708727614
11+ Practice Papers Verbal Reasoning Pack 2 (Multiple Choice)	9780708727621
11+ Practice Papers Verbal Reasoning Pack 3 (Multiple Choice)	9780708727638
11+ Practice Papers Bundle of All Verbal 11+ Practice Packs (3 Packs)	9780708727690
11+ Practice Papers Bundle of All Non-Verbal 11+ Practice Packs (3 Packs)	9780708727706



Important Dates

JANUARY 2025

11+ registration forms available to complete online at www.bostonhighschool.co.uk

23 JANUARY 2025

Year 5 Open Day during the school day. Bookable tour slots for parents/carers and daughter. If you would like to join us on this day, this needs to be completed by **Monday 22nd January**. Please follow the link below to book a slot.

<http://tinyurl.com/BHSOpenDay24>

31 MARCH 2025

11+ registration forms to be completed online

JUNE 2025

Practice papers, verbal reasoning and non-verbal reasoning, will be made available to Lincolnshire feeder primary schools. You can obtain commercially printed practice papers. These come in packs, together with a guide for parents and a simplified administration and mark scheme and are available from online retailers. They are similar in format to the actual 11+ tests, although they may contain more or fewer questions than the actual tests. Parents should buy the **Multiple-Choice Format**, NOT the Standard Format tests.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Lincolnshire County Council*, which has a duty to make sure that every child is placed, will write to parents giving details of Lincolnshire Secondary Schools and will include an application form requesting parental preferences of secondary school. The latest date for the return of this form is 31 October 2024.

** If your Local Authority is not Lincolnshire, you will need to follow the instructions you receive from your own LA regarding your preferred schools.*

- Friday 12 SEPTEMBER 2025** Verbal Reasoning 11+ test will take place in your daughter's primary school.
- Friday 19 SEPTEMBER 2025** Non-Verbal/Spatial Reasoning 11+ test will take place in your daughter's primary school.
- 10 OCTOBER 2025** Results emailed to parents.
- 31 OCTOBER 2025** Deadline for the return of parental preference form.
- 2 MARCH 2026** The Local Education Authority will send out offers of places on 2 March 2025 based on the preferences submitted on your application form in the Autumn. If you applied online, you will be able to see your offered school online. You will have the opportunity to appeal or to make a new application if you wish.
- 3 MARCH 2026 (emailing date)** Grammar Schools will write to those parents whose children are eligible for a place to confirm the grammar school place offered on 2 March, or offer to include your child on a reserve list.

If you wish your daughter to take the 11+ selection tests for entry to a Lincolnshire Grammar School, including Boston High School, in September 2026, **it is vital you complete the online registration form**, which is available on our website, by **31 MARCH 2025**. You need to be aware, however, that this in itself does not constitute an application to a particular grammar school.

Top Tips for a worry free 11+

- **Practice little and often. Purchase the recommended test packs or download free apps.**
- **Practice together as a family.**
- **Carry on normal routines at home, a happy relaxed child will be more likely to succeed.**
- **Practice the timings for the questions – it is important your daughter is familiar with how long to spend on each question/section.**
- **Read every night to build vocabulary.**
- **Most importantly, too much pressure reduces mental maths ability and vocabulary recall by around 10%-30%.**
- **Do everything you can to make any preparation as much fun, as relaxed and as enjoyable as possible.**
- **Finally, it is not the end of the world if it doesn't go to plan – they can only do their best.**

The next steps after the 11+ results are released.

If your daughter is successful in the testing and qualifies for the School, we will notify you that you are eligible for a place (up to our published admissions number). There will be three possible notified outcomes from the test:

- 1. Your daughter qualifies for a place at Boston High School by achieving the BHS entry level (in the local top 25%)**
- 2. Your daughter qualifies for Boston High School, and all other Lincolnshire Grammar schools, by achieving the 'standardised' benchmark score of 220**
- 3. Your daughter does not qualify through either of the first two routes**

In the event of the third outcome, you may still wish to appeal for a place at the school if you believe your daughter is of a grammar school ability level, but for some reason your daughter did not attain the qualifying score.

We would suggest in the first instance you discuss this with your daughter's Primary Headteacher.

Contact details

Boston High School

Spilsby Road

Boston

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01205 310505

enquiries@bostonhighschool.co.uk

[Facebook](#) @bostonhighschool

Lincolnshire County Council School Admissions

While the Governing Body of Boston High School is the admission authority for the school, the LCC School Admissions Team co-ordinates all secondary school applications on behalf of Lincolnshire schools.

You should, therefore, read your copy of their booklet 'Going to Secondary School In Lincolnshire' carefully.

In terms of being able to apply for a place at Boston High School confidently, through the admissions process, we will have told you in October whether your daughter passed the tests, or has qualified for a place solely at BHS, so that you will know the result before you need to fill in the online application or return your paper form to the County Council.

LCC School Admissions can be contacted as follows:

Phone: 01522 782030 (8am-6pm Mon-Fri)