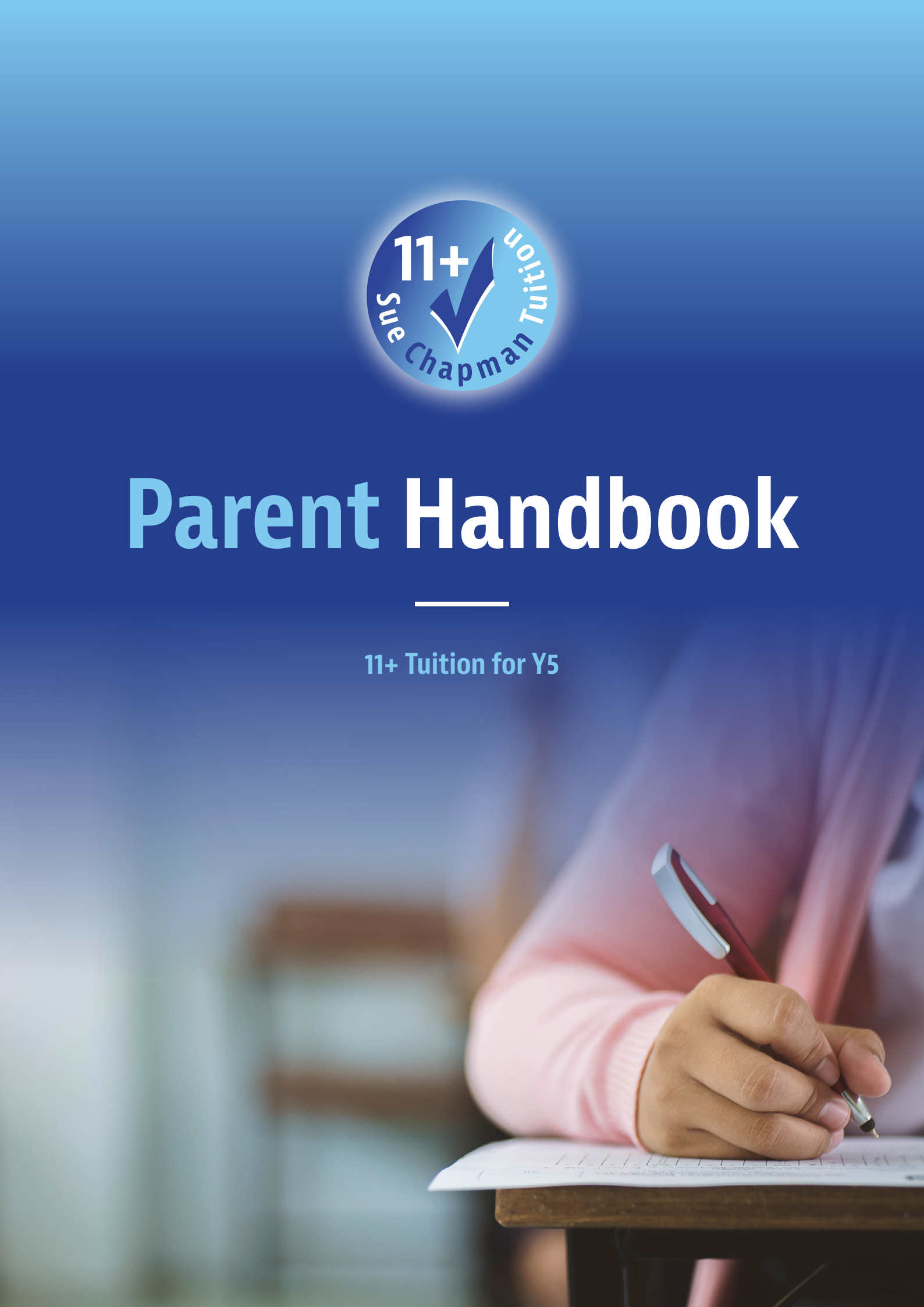
Parent Handbook

11+ Tuition for Y5



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1. How does our Y5 Group Tuition work?



a. Our Tuition

As you may have seen on our website our service has been providing 11+ tuition for over 20 years and our nine teachers combined now have over 200 years of teaching experience. We are completely committed not only to helping children prepare for the 11+ test but also to raising confidence and motivation; this is obviously key in ensuring that they perform to the very best of their ability on the day of any test or exam. The teachers all view encouraging children as vital to their success, so valuing and praising them is an integral part of their teaching and they deliver the tutorials with great passion and diligence.

The Y5 programme, tutorials, homework lists and assessments are compiled by Sue, so regardless of which teacher a child sees they're working through the same material with the same emphasis on promoting motivation, academic achievement and exam technique. Face-to-face tutorials take place once per week during the published Warwickshire term times and children then complete 6 remote summer holiday lessons, as part of the summer revision programme, to continue and consolidate academic progression whilst helping them to avoid summer learning loss in the period immediately prior to the exam. Some children do not attend face-to-face tutorials but instead complete the weekly units at home by using the teaching videos and audios from our login Parent Area.

The full Y5 syllabus is 45 weeks long. It consists of 36 normal weekly units, the pack of 6 summer lessons and 3 mandatory mock exams during the summer term. For each mock exam week, all the Y5 children will be with us on a Sunday morning at an exam hall in Warwick instead of attending their normal weekly tutorial.

The course itself covers all the key areas examined in the Warwickshire 11+ (English and Verbal Reasoning, Numerical Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning) and there is also a significant focus throughout on exam technique and timing strategies that are vital in order that the children can achieve their best possible results on the day of the exam itself.

To access the Y5 Availability for September 2027 please click here:
https://www.suechapmantuition.co.uk/11-tutoring/

To read some of our parent testimonials please click here:
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1. How does our Y5 Group Tuition work?



b. Is our tuition likely to suit your child?

Although lots of parents have an appreciation of the high academic levels required by the end of Y5 for a child to be competitive for a grammar school place, many will also ask us if our Y5 syllabus is likely to be suitable for their child. Whilst children sit the 11+ exam when they've only just finished Y5, it is set at a Y6 level as the authority are looking for the highest performing children to fill the grammar school places. It is therefore extremely important that parents source tuition at an appropriate level for their child.

In our experience, children who are not already performing beyond age-related expectations in either, or ideally both numeracy and literacy by the end of Y4 will likely find an 11+ course of study very challenging and potentially demotivating. Parents should consider carefully whether or not an 11+ programme is the correct route for their child.

Although we have always been non-selective, it is important that parents select the best possible tuition for their child. Having consistently achieved outstanding results for our children, we know how well the small group model works for 11+ tuition. The children feel very supported throughout the programme which is vital for the 11+ tuition journey as it is academically challenging from the outset.



2. What are the Tuition Fees?



a. Fees

The full Y5 syllabus consists of 36 normal weekly units (£43.00 each for 2027/28), the pack of 6 summer tutorials (£150 for summer 2027) and 3 mock exams towards the end of the year which each cost £66.00 (one each in May, June and July).

In addition to the unit work for which we provide all materials and resources, our Y5 children also complete formalised homework from a series of textbooks each week – parents therefore need to buy these homework books. There are two sets of homework books, one required for the first half of the year, one for the second half. Each of the two sets costs around £60 so parents incur that expense early in September and then again halfway through the year at the February half-term point.

b. Invoicing

All tuition is paid for a half term at a time in advance ie. normally 6 or 7 tutorials. In this way, the slot is secured for that child until such time as the parent decides that they no longer want it. There is no formal contract between us so parents are free to stop the tuition at any stage without financial penalty.

c. Deposit payment

On reserving a space for their child, parents pay a single non-refundable deposit covering the cost of the first two weeks of the programme (£86 for 2027/28). The balance for the first half term will then be due just before tuition starts. Once tuition begins, from Week 3 onwards parents are free to withdraw at any stage; the notice period is two weeks and any lessons still remaining from that point that have already been paid for would be refunded in full.

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3. How can you reserve a space for your child?

a. Requesting a place for the next academic year (2027-28)

Registration for groups starting from Sep 2027 begins in Oct 2026. If you wish to check availability and/or reserve a Y5 space for your child, please submit the Y5 Registration and Group Preference Form that you will find on the 11+ Tuition booking page of our website. You will then receive written confirmation of the allocation and a deposit invoice. No other actions will be required at that stage.

b. Requesting a place for a future academic year (2028-29 or later)

Parents can also pre-register younger children to start either Y4 or Y5 tuition in any future year up to and including academic year 2029-2030; please just email us your request to pre-register your child's name for the relevant year. Available groups will be released for booking one year before we start each new year group ie. every October for the following September. At that point we email all pre-registered parents to inform them of the group times/days/locations that will be available and registration forms are submitted via the website - parents make a first and second choice group selection as the most popular groups are often over-subscribed. When we receive your child's registration form we will write back with a confirmed allocation.



4. Frequently Asked Questions



a. How much homework is set each week?

Our Y5 children complete homework from a series of textbooks each week; these books remain at home throughout the year and are used to reinforce the techniques and strategies taught in the tutorials. Typically, the homework should take around 1hr 15mins per week at the start of Y5 and it increases as we go through the year so it should take a child around 1hr 45mins by the end of the year. This time would increase if parents wish to also work on additional material to tackle identified target areas.

b. How are children assessed and how do the mock exams work?

During the first half of the academic year, we assess our Y5 children twice (in November and again in February). The assessments are set at a level appropriate for that stage of the year. They allow us to objectively assess a child's 11+ preparedness through comparison with historic data from the previous year. We provide extensive assessment feedback and detailed advice for parents to help address target areas at all stages.

In the later stages of Y5, it is vital that children experience the format, content and atmosphere of full-standard mock exams. Our Y5 children are therefore automatically enrolled in our 3 mocks (one each in May, June and July) as they're a core/mandatory part of the Y5 programme. We publish the dates for our mocks at the very start of the academic year so that parents can plan accordingly.

The mocks that we deliver are a mix of our own papers and some that are commercially available; we will share further details nearer to the time. This tried and tested mix of full-standard 11+ mock exams and the extensive feedback provided on each occasion gives parents a clear picture of their child's 11+ strength and target areas. The additional resources and materials listed in the feedback documentation after each assessment and mock exam enable parents to further support their child and to help them to access additional marks in the real exam that they might otherwise miss.

4. Frequently Asked Questions



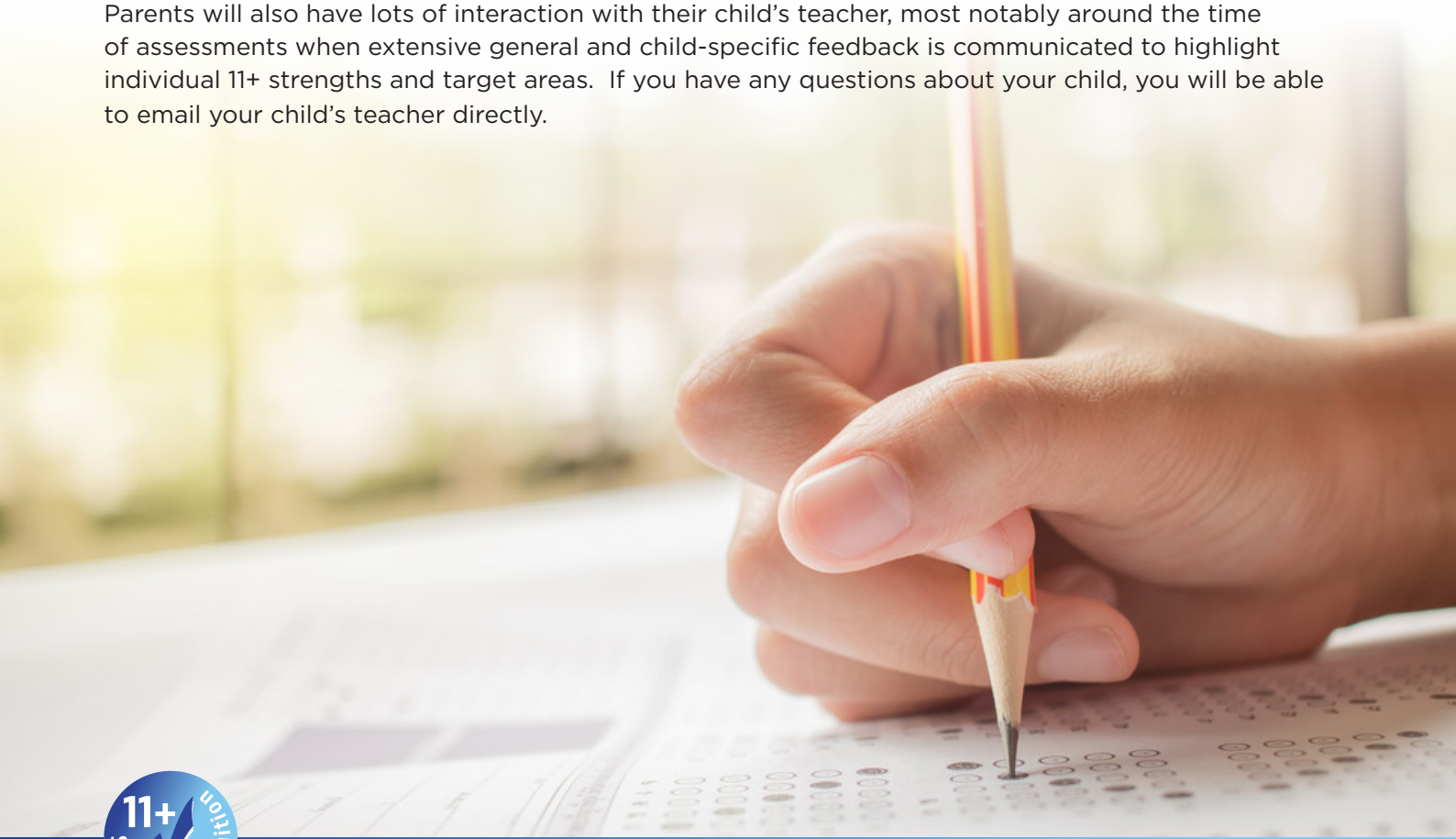
c. How do you communicate with parents and how will a parent's questions be answered?

Preparing a child for the 11+ exam is a significant undertaking on the part of any parent and there is a huge amount of information available online, some of which is unreliable. We pride ourselves on our communication with parents from the outset and on ensuring that you are given all the information that you need in a timely manner. We publish a full year planner as well as all assessment and mock exam dates at the start of the academic year so that parents can plan accordingly. This information is all published in the 'Parent Area' of our website.

The Parent Area is a private part of our website which only our parents can access. When a child joins the programme, parents will receive an email telling them how they can log on to the Parent Area so as to begin to access all the valuable information that's found there.

The Parent Area has a reference section and a blog where new information is posted regularly by Sue as we go through the year. The posts appear chronologically and we don't remove any of them at any point – you'll simply see the most recent post at the top and you can scroll down to access something older if you either missed it or wish to re-read something. The Parent Area is one of the most important areas of the website as this is where parents really get the full benefit value of Sue's experience and expertise – she's been teaching for 40 years and teaching the Warwickshire 11+ syllabus for over 20.

Parents will also have lots of interaction with their child's teacher, most notably around the time of assessments when extensive general and child-specific feedback is communicated to highlight individual 11+ strengths and target areas. If you have any questions about your child, you will be able to email your child's teacher directly.



4. Frequently Asked Questions



d. Will my child need to revise during the summer holidays?

Your child will definitely need to revise during the summer holidays to guard against summer learning loss. Summer learning loss is when children return to school after their summer holidays at a lower academic level than they had achieved the end of the last academic school year. During the summer holidays of your child's Year 5, we still need their learning to accelerate and develop. Studies show that summer learning loss can be anywhere between one to three months of study. It is more pronounced in reading and maths where a significant proportion of skills can be lost over the summer months. It is therefore essential to embark upon an 11+ summer revision programme to enable your child to be competitive in the 11+ test.

So how does summer revision work? We recommend one and a half to two hours per day (Monday to Friday) throughout the holiday. Within this, the children should complete one of our 6 remote summer lessons per week or when convenient and revise for the other four days. We provide comprehensive guidelines and suggested timetables for summer holiday revision.

e. Can I withdraw my child at any stage?

Withdrawals from the Y5 programme are rare. However, there is no contract between us so you can stop tuition at any stage. We simply ask that you give us two weeks notice and any further remaining lessons thereafter in that half term would be refunded in full. The child's space would then be made available to parents on the waiting list.

f. Can I just pay for a trial lesson?

We don't offer this service because as there is no contract between us, every lesson from the very first one can effectively be treated as a trial lesson since you are free to stop at any stage. In the event that you decide to withdraw you will simply be refunded in full for the lessons remaining at that stage as explained above.

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4. Frequently Asked Questions



g. Can my child complete the syllabus online/remotely without ever having a face-to-face lesson?

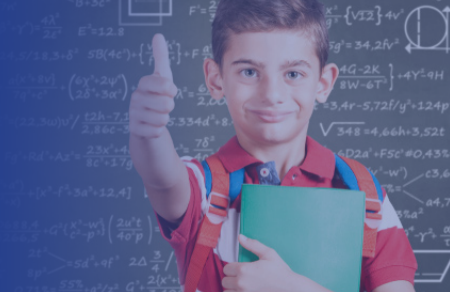
The Y5 programme can be completed remotely (i.e. online at home). Children following this path complete exactly the same syllabus as those children that complete the programme via the face-to-face group tutorials. The key difference is that the weekly unit of work is completed online using a series of (normally) three videos and sometimes one audio each week. These completely replicate the teaching given in a face-to-face tutorial, the obvious difference being that the child has no direct weekly contact with a teacher. One key advantage is that this gives the parent the flexibility to choose when the tuition is completed, and the learning can be spread throughout the week if preferred. Children can complete the full Y5 programme remotely, with the exception of the 3 mock exams (one each in May, June and July) which they attend in person alongside all our group tuition children.

Online tutorials are £25 each instead of the £43.00 that's paid by parents for face-to-face tutorials. Parents pay for and are sent the work a half term at a time, with one unit to be completed each week. This is followed by weekly homework that is set from a series of textbooks. In the Parent Area of our website (a discrete area that can only be accessed once you are registered with us) parents will find the teaching videos so that children can play these to work through each weekly unit. The videos are designed to guide the children through the unit with strategies, explanations and worked examples. All answers are available at the back of each printed unit of work for either you or your child to mark.

The unit work is followed by weekly homework that is set from a series of textbooks – online tuition parents therefore need to buy these homework books. There are two sets of homework books, one required for the first half of the year, one for the second half. Each of the two sets costs around £60 so parents incur that expense early in September and then again half-way through the year at the February half-term point.



4. Frequently Asked Questions



h. Will you tell me if my child is struggling or that you think that the tuition isn't right for them?

Your child's teacher will give you a feedback call once per term following the Autumn Assessment, the Spring Assessment and the May Mock Exam. They will talk to you about your child's work in the face-to-face tutorials and also about their assessment results. We also talk to you and publish our statistics after each assessment/mock exam so that you can compare your child's result with results from the previous year and with those of the rest of the cohort. This helps both you and your child's teacher to judge whether 11+ tuition is right for your child.

A good parent/child and teacher relationship based on mutual respect, trust and understanding is the cornerstone of our service. The removal of a child from our service is an exceptional and rare event. In the unlikely event that a child's behaviour is assessed as unsatisfactory, is affecting the learning of others in the group or that we are unable to meet a child's needs, the parent will be informed in order to prompt corrective action. Should it remain unresolved, we will reserve the right to suspend tuition for that child and a full refund for any remaining part of the programme (already paid for) would be issued.

i. What are your success rates?

It isn't possible to say for certain what percentage of our children end up in a grammar school, as some achieve the qualifying score in the 11+ exam but the parents may elect not to take the space up (e.g. if electing for an independent secondary school instead). However, we always ask parents to share their child's 11+ exam result with us so that we know how many of our children could have gone to grammar school; we have always had at least 90% of scores shared with us. Therefore, we are able to keep track of how many children achieved a qualifying score for a Warwickshire grammar school, whether or not the parents were targeting that school or not.

Noting that we are completely non-selective, over the past 10 years between 75% and 85% of our children have gained qualifying scores in the exam each year. In addition, the average score of all our children in the exam has always been at or above the Automatic Qualifying Score for Alcester Grammar School. Given the competitive nature of the 11+ exam in Warwickshire, this is a remarkable statistic.

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4. Frequently Asked Questions



j. How important are Reading and Vocabulary in the Warwickshire 11+ test?

Reading proficiency is the single most important skill for children following an 11+ programme; it is very often used as a predictor of academic success. Reading ability and speed is extremely important for the 11+ test; the English and Verbal Reasoning element of the 11+ test is currently 50% of the overall score weighting. Children need to be able to process information quickly to answer all the questions. Learning new words is also one of the most important parts of 11+ preparation, not only for some of the Verbal Reasoning techniques but also to develop reading comprehension skills and the understanding of texts. There is a strong link between vocabulary and performance in the 11+ test. Children should be reading every day; books are a vital tool to increase their exposure to language, broaden vocabulary and increase understanding.

k. How important is Maths in the Warwickshire 11+ test?

The Maths element of the 11+ test is currently 25% of the overall score weighting. 11+ Maths questions can cover short questions, multi-step problem questions and multi-part questions. All these question types can require the fast mental recall of addition/subtraction bonds and multiplication/division tables. Fast mental recall of these facts alongside written calculation skills are important as they form the building blocks for higher-level math concepts. When a child masters these facts and processes, more difficult concepts will be easier and the child will be better equipped to solve them faster.



4. Frequently Asked Questions



l. What is Non-Verbal Reasoning?

The Non-Verbal Reasoning (NVR) element of the 11+ test is currently 25% of the overall score weighting. NVR involves solving problems containing shapes, pictures and patterns instead of words. It requires the ability to work logically, to have good spatial awareness and to be able to spot patterns. Some children are naturally very good at NVR but in any case it is easy to improve results in this part of the programme using our tried and tested strategies and methods.

m. How important is timing for the 11+ test?

A key element to 11+ test success is being able to use good time management. As the children become more confident with different types of 11+ questions, we introduce timing activities at home to work alongside those that we do in the lessons. The GL 11+ test is made up of two papers and each of these contains different individually timed sections. Children need to work quickly (but not rush) within each section as they are unable to return to a section once the time has lapsed for that section. Therefore, attempting all the questions and not taking too long on one question is key. Some children can become fixated with questions that they feel they may have answered incorrectly. It is important to move on to the next question and forget about the question they have just completed. If they are still considering the previous question then they are effectively wasting time on both questions. Exam strategies are by far the most important element of developing good timing techniques and we use a variety of strategies to help your child with their own timing skills.

n. How do I help my child if they aren't motivated to learn?

The teachers all view encouraging children as vital to their success, so valuing and praising them is an integral part of their teaching and they deliver the tutorials with great passion and diligence. However, at certain times of the year it can be more difficult to keep motivation high when completing homework. Children who are more motivated to learn persist longer, produce a higher quality effort, learn more deeply and perform better in tests. Creating routines and rules around homework are important but they need to work for your family and with what's most important to you all. We provide a number of useful suggestions and guidelines to help create positive homework sessions.

o. Who registers my child for the 11+ test?

Registration for the 11+ test usually opens in May each year for those children currently in Year 5. Parents need to register their own child for the exam, usually by the deadline of 30 June.

p. When will my child sit the 11+ test?

Testing sessions for registered candidates are usually scheduled to take place in September, when children have just started in Year 6.

5. Summary



Ultimately, the benefits of 11+ tuition go well beyond preparation purely for the 11+ exam. Approximately 75% of the syllabus is dedicated to English and Maths so it provides excellent support for above average children in these key subject areas at school. Having experienced mock exams and practiced the exam strategies that we teach to ensure the highest possible results, our children are then better prepared for the many academic challenges that come beyond Y5.

Our children always report back that their Y6 SATs were much more straightforward following completion of our Y5 syllabus. Furthermore, the process of transitioning to secondary school is undoubtedly aided significantly for children who have successfully completed an 11+ preparation course.

We very much hope that you have found all this information about our service useful. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us via the website or email us at **info@suechapmantuition.co.uk**

Thank you.

Sue Chapman

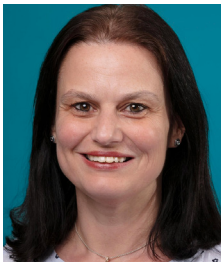
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