

A blurred background image of a student in a white shirt and blue tie, sitting at a desk and writing on a piece of paper with a pen. The student is out of focus, and the background shows other people in a classroom or office setting.

SELECTIVE SCHOOL TUTORING

**PARTNERING WITH
ALCHEMY TUITION**

*Selective School
Preparation*

AN OVERVIEW OF THE TEST

The Selective School entrance exam is a general skills test to determine entry to a NSW selective school. It is traditionally taken in year 6 for year 7 entry, although it can also be taken in later grades for entry up to year 10. For the purpose of clarity, this overview focusses on the year 6 entrance exam and is accurate to the best of our knowledge at time of release.

The test is **very hard**. Even for adults. And is meant to be so. With almost 15,000 students fighting for only a few thousand spots, it needs to discriminate to work out who is really deserving of a coveted spot.

4 core skills are tested: mathematics, reading, writing and general ability. The general ability is weighted the heaviest out of all sections, contributing 50% of the total score. Maths is 25% and reading and writing combine for another 25%.

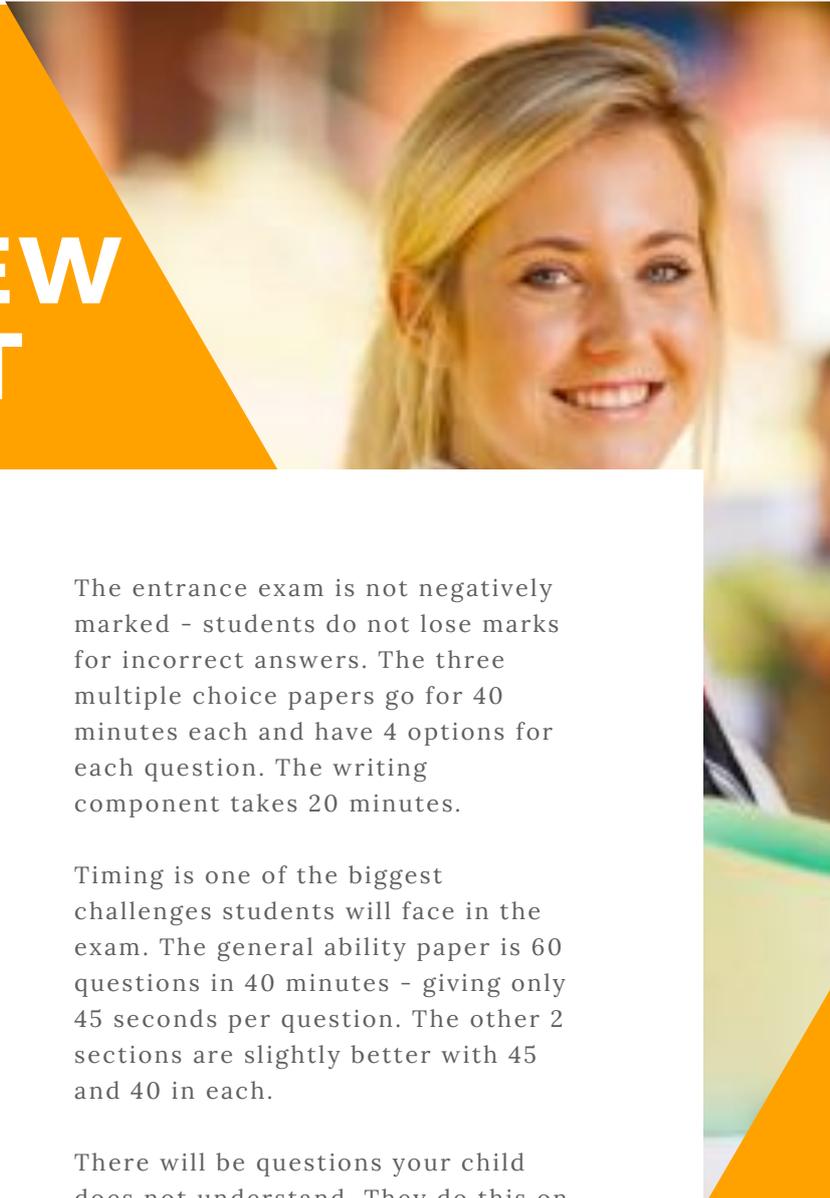
It is important to note also that internal school marks comprise a part of the overall mark. Your child's entrance rank will be given out of 300 - 200 from the test and 100 from in school. We always recommend a parent have a conversation with their child's teacher when they are applying for entry just to ensure there won't be any surprises there.

The entrance exam is not negatively marked - students do not lose marks for incorrect answers. The three multiple choice papers go for 40 minutes each and have 4 options for each question. The writing component takes 20 minutes.

Timing is one of the biggest challenges students will face in the exam. The general ability paper is 60 questions in 40 minutes - giving only 45 seconds per question. The other 2 sections are slightly better with 45 and 40 in each.

There will be questions your child does not understand. They do this on purpose. There will be words they have never heard before and puzzles that they can not figure out. This is where a comprehensive preparation strategy is so important - so your child knows how to choose the best option within the time limitations they face.

A handful of practice papers are available for free online, but if you are really serious about helping your child, partnering with the experience and knowledge of an Alchemy tutor is the best opportunity you can give them. With almost 15 years under our belt and thousands of successful students, you can be confident they are in safe hands.



last year's

REVIEWS & STATISTICS

We have been helping students get in to selective schools since 2005, seeing more than a thousand successful students in this time.

The following are just a handful of the hundreds of verified 5-star reviews we have received in the last 12 months:

"Sarrvesa is an amazing tutor and has been instrumental in building her added confidence. Alchemy Tuition has maintained its reputation: 5 stars"

SIMRIT KAUR

"Alchemy is innovative and professional. The company has a great approach and our tutor Jeff is marvellous. Highly recommended!"

JAMES & KAREN

92%

Entry rate (minimum of 40 lessons)

85%

Entry rate (minimum of 20 lessons)

"This is a great service. Our only regret is that we didn't know of this option sooner. It is evident to us that Andrew has a desire to inspire. Our girls really enjoy the opportunity of one on one tuition, and we really appreciate Andrew's drive to develop their skill set. Thank you guys, with your help we'll lock in those base skills."

JESS TIMMS

About our tutors.

Every Alchemy tutor that works with a selective school student has gone through our unique **selective school accreditation**.

This is a comprehensive training program that takes your tutor through every component of the exam so they know exactly what is tested and how to prepare the student for the exam. In many cases, they would have gone through the selective school system themselves and therefore offer first hand experience.

In addition to this accreditation, all Alchemy tutors hold Working with children checks, are double reference checked and constantly monitored and mentored to ensure only the best work with us.

Our tutors come from a wide range of backgrounds and are all hand-selected, trained and supported. Once you make your booking, we will match your child up with the tutor we see as the best match and send you their profile by email.

about our program

One on one tuition that targets the unique needs of your child.

Our selective school preparation program is designed to give your child everything they need to succeed in the exam. This fundamentally centres around familiarising them with the exam content as best as possible. Your preparation program will be uniquely designed by your tutor for your child. In the first lesson they will do a selective school assessment to see where their strengths and weaknesses

currently lie. From there, they will adjust their program to ensure your child is performing at the top of their game when the exam rolls around. Your program will cover all core areas and involve both self-guided study and homework where appropriate. We send you feedback after every session and a detailed progress report every 10 lessons. Your tutor will keep you updated on your child's progress at each step of the way.

ALL SUBJECTS COVERED

Your tutor will alternate lessons between the 4 subjects to ensure your child is adequately prepared across all core areas, focussing on those as required.

HOMEWORK (IF APPROPRIATE)

Consistency is so important when preparing for the selective school exam, so this work should continue outside of lessons.

OBSERVATION & APPLICATION

Lessons will move between your tutor showing your child what to do and your tutor watching them do it. This ensures all learning styles are covered.

10 WEEK CYCLE

Our program operates on a 10 week cycle, with progress testing occurring every 10 lessons. Each cycle will move your child closer to the goal.

WEEKLY FEEDBACK

After each lesson your tutor will submit feedback on the lesson and send it to you by email. Keeping you in the loop at all times.

A HIGHLIGHT OF THIER WEEK

Our lessons are designed to be engaging and the most fun your child will have all week! Our tutors are trained to make each lesson amazing!

10 LESSON SAMPLE

PROGRAM

LESSON 1

Initial assessment

Tutor will test all components of the exam to see where your child needs to focus.

LESSON 2

General ability

Tutor and student work through a practice paper together.

LESSON 3

Maths

Tutor and student work through a practice paper together.

LESSON 4

Reading

Tutor and student work through a practice paper together.

LESSON 5

General ability

Student takes the lead and tutor watches on offering encouragement and support.

LESSON 6

Maths

Student takes the lead and tutor watches on offering encouragement and support.

LESSON 7

Reading

Student takes the lead and tutor watches on offering encouragement and support.

LESSON 8

General ability

LESSON 9

Maths

LESSON 10

Testing week

Student asked to complete 3 papers ahead of the lesson - student and tutor then mark and revise in lesson together.

HOMework GIVEN BETWEEN LESSONS

Written tasks given at the end of each lesson for student to complete during the week. Writing will then be reviewed at the start of each lesson and feedback provided.

COSTS & DETAILS

Our private tuition is affordable, flexible and contract-free. Please check our website or get in touch for pricing in your area. We offer discounts on prepaid packages if you choose to prepay 10 or 20 lessons at a time.

We offer tuition in-home, at local libraries or schools and even online. No after school madness driving your child to the other end of town or fighting for parking in a busy shopping centre. Easy, convenient, in-home tuition.

We work around your busy schedule - when you book with us, you simply let us know the best day and time for the sessions to occur and we will organise a tutor to match.

Whilst you are not locked in to regular weekly sessions, we firmly believe that consistent lessons are key to success. The most successful students in our programs are those that see their tutor every week without fail.

We can work with students as young as year 3 and up to year 9 for late entry. We also specialise in scholarship entry, OC entry and private school entry exams.



*Get started
today!*

Book online at
www.alchemytuition.com.au

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO START?

There is no right answer to this question. It ultimately comes down to you and how important it is to you that your child gets in to a selective school. We have some students that start preparing in 3rd grade and others that come 3 months before the exam. If it is important to you or your child, then we suggest you get started as early as possible.



DOES YOUR CHILD REALLY NEED A TUTOR?

Yes. It is very rare to see a student get in to a selective school on natural ability or with only help from parents. It is a fiercely competitive exam and if your child is not working with a tutor they will be disadvantaged against other students that do.



ARE THERE CONTRACTS OR DO I NEED TO PAY A TERM IN ADVANCE?

No - there are no contracts and we are entirely pay as you go. We use an automated payment system that simply charges your debit or credit card 24 hours after each lesson occurs.



DOES THE TUTOR BRING RESOURCES AND CONTENT?

Yes - your tutor will have full access to our resource centre which contains dozen of our own selective school papers. These have been designed over more than a decade of experience and adhere to the latest changes in test requirements.

MORE FAQ



IS THERE AN ASSESSMENT?

Yes. In the first lesson your tutor will deliver an assessment on your child, seeing where their strengths and weaknesses lie. In many cases this will be a student's first introduction to the selective school exam, so also serves as a good benchmark to work from.



WHY CHOOSE ALCHEMY OVER COACHING COLLEGES?

The classroom environment will not be able to cater to your child's unique needs. Each student is just expected to follow the content from top to bottom, regardless of where they are currently placed. With Alchemy, every lesson is built around your child. Your tutor will be able to spend more time on the areas they need and less on those they don't. We also offer far more flexibility, freedom and visibility.



HOW DO YOU TRACK PROGRESS?

We test students regularly to monitor improvements. The frequency of this will be up to your tutor, and you are welcome to discuss this with them in the first session to work out a testing cycle that is ideal for your child.



WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS? HOW DO I GET STARTED?

When you are ready to get started with an Alchemy tutor, you can book online at www.alchemytuition.com.au or reach out to us by email, phone or live chat. From there, we work with our team to line up the tutor that we feel best aligns with your child's needs and personality. Once confirmed, we will let you know by SMS and email.

GET STARTED TODAY:

BOOK AT

ALCHEMYTUITION.COM.AU