The Year 9 (13+) Entrance Examination is taken by all Year 9 candidates. The examination will take place in late April or early May of Year 7 at Sevenoaks. Candidates may alternatively sit the papers in Hong Kong in mid-April.

The examination consists of three papers: Mathematics (1 hour); English (1 hour); and a Verbal Reasoning Test (1 hour). Past papers can be found on our website: https://www.sevenoaksschool.org/admissions/entry-at-13/past-papers/. The notes below are a guide to the syllabuses and contents of the papers.

Mathematics
As the candidates for this examination come from a wide variety of schools which are following different Mathematics courses, we do not expect them to be prepared to a specific syllabus. Our papers are a general test in Mathematics, covering a fairly wide range of topics which one would reasonably expect a candidate in Year 7 to have met. The paper will focus on problem-solving skills and candidates should be comfortable with their number work, manipulation of algebra and geometrical reasoning. A list of the topics included can be found on our website: https://www.sevenoaksschool.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Admissions/Entry_at_13_/Year_9_maths_exam_topics_2015_onwards.pdf. Please note that the Mathematics paper will be entirely non-calculator and will therefore not follow the same format as the past papers currently on our website, ie past papers up to entry in 2015.

English
The examination paper consists of one prose passage and a piece of creative writing. Candidates will be tested on their ability to read carefully, understand and respond to the extract in detail and to develop their answers at length. The creative writing will look for an imaginative response to the task and an ability to use language fluently.

Verbal Reasoning Test
This is a standardised test providing a measure of general intelligence and scholastic ability in comparison with children of the same age. There are various 11+ verbal reasoning practice papers available from bookshops including those published by Bond, NFER and GL Assessment which candidates may wish to use for preparation purposes.