

PRENDERGAST – HILLY FIELDS COLLEGE

Admission Arrangements for Assessment of Musical Aptitude for Admission in September 2010

Guidance for parents who would like their child to be considered for a Music Place at Prendergast – Hilly Fields College

There are 10 music places available for students showing '*Musical Aptitude*' for entry to Year 7 in September 2010.

The aptitude test will be held on Thursday 3rd December 2009 at Prendergast – Hilly Fields College. All applicants that apply to both Prendergast – Hilly Fields College and Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College for a music place will take the test at Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College only. However if your daughter is successful in gaining an audition for both colleges she will be expected to attend auditions at the individual colleges concerned. Prendergast – Hilly Fields College will be holding their auditions during the week beginning the 4th January 2010.

How to Apply:

Complete the application form and tick the box marked '*Music Application*' if you would like your child to be assessed for one of the 10 places available.

All Applicants who are applying under the Music criterion will sit a written Aptitude Test in Music. No previous knowledge of Music or Music Theory is required by the applicant as the test is based entirely on response to aural tests.

The Test will consist of the following:

60 questions of four main types namely Pitch, Melody, Texture and Rhythm.

Pitch: For these questions candidates listen to 2 sounds and have to indicate whether the second sound is the same as the first, or whether it is higher or lower. There are 20 of these questions and some of the pitches are less than a semitone apart.

Melody: For these questions candidates listen to 2 tunes consisting of 5 notes. Candidates have to decide whether the second tune is the same as the first or if one of the notes has been altered. If there is a change, candidates will be expected to identify which note had been altered by giving the note number. There are 10 questions.

Texture: For these questions candidates listen to a number of notes played together at the same time. Candidates need to decide whether each chord has 2, 3 or 4 notes. There are 20 questions.

Rhythm: For these questions candidates listen to 2 patterns of notes and have to decide whether the second pattern is the same as or different from the first. Each rhythm will be 4 beats in length. There are 10 questions.

The 40 candidates with the highest score will be invited back to perform either on their chosen instrument or vocally. There is a totally free choice of piece. Their aptitude is gauged from this performance. This audition gives the candidates a further opportunity to demonstrate their aptitude regardless of previous experience.