



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH 2026



BUTE HOUSE

7+ 2027

INFORMATION MEETING

THE 7+ ASSESSMENT AT BUTE

At Bute House, the 7+ Assessment is a chance to discover each student's strengths, potential, and readiness for the next stage.

We celebrate qualities that help students thrive:

- **KINDNESS**
- **CURIOSITY**
- **RESILIENCE**
- **A LOVE OF LEARNING**

The assessment morning is designed to be enjoyable, engaging, and supportive. Your daughter will take part in fun, age-appropriate activities that explore skills, problem-solving, and teamwork, all within a caring environment. With your encouragement and reassurance, she can approach the day with confidence, positivity, and a sense of excitement for learning.



**EVERY
GIRL RUNS
HER OWN
BEST
RACE**



WHAT WE VALUE

At Bute House, we value not just what students know, but how they approach learning. We celebrate curiosity, resilience, and a willingness to try new things. We look for students who embrace opportunities, respond positively to guidance, and enjoy growing both academically and personally.



**WE ENCOURAGE YOUR
DAUGHTER TO BE BRAVE,
CURIOUS, INCLUSIVE
AND INDEPENDENT**

SIAN BRADSHAW, HEAD

TEACHABILITY

Teachability is about being open to new ideas, willing to try, and confident enough to begin, even without all the answers. It also shows in how students respond to guidance and support, using feedback as an opportunity to grow and develop their learning.

APPROACH TO LEARNING **LOVE OF LEARNING**

We value the way your daughter approaches learning, problem-solving, and shows willingness to engage, rather than simply focusing on memorised facts.

We seek students who will dive into Bute House life and seize every opportunity to grow.



BUTE HOUSE

OUR ASSESSMENT APPROACH

The 7+ Assessment at Bute House is designed to give a true picture of each student's strengths, potential, and approach to learning. Assessments are set at a Year 2 level and presented in a format that should feel familiar, with tasks that include English, maths, problem-solving, and collaborative activities. A few questions are designed to stretch thinking and showcase each student's potential.



GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSMENT PREPARATION



SHOWCASING STRENGTHS

The assessment is designed to highlight each student's potential, curiosity, and love of learning.



INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

If extra support has been needed, such as English as an additional language, please let us know so we can consider the full context.



GENUINE LEARNING

We strongly discourage assessment-focused tutoring. We want students to approach the day authentically, feeling confident and comfortable so that they demonstrate their true potential.

SUPPORTING YOUR DAUGHTER

➤ SIMPLE PREPARATION TIPS

Ensure your daughter has plenty of rest the night before and starts the day with a healthy breakfast to help her feel alert and ready to learn.

Keep conversations about the assessment positive and pressure-free, focusing on encouragement and curiosity rather than outcomes.

OUR COMMUNITY

➤ VALUING EVERY BACKGROUND

We warmly welcome children from all educational experiences, including state schools, and recognise the variety of topics, class sizes, and learning opportunities they bring. Admissions take these differences into account, allowing each student to thrive.

➤ CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSITY

We are proud of our vibrant, multilingual community, where around 80% of students speak an additional language at home. English is the language of instruction and assessment, so students need a good grasp of the language to fully access all activities.



ON THE DAY

ARRIVAL: 8:00–9:00 AM | COLLECTION: 12:00–1:00 PM

➤ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES AND ASSESSMENTS

Students take part in icebreakers, English and maths tasks and a collaborative challenge, all in groups of around 10 children with 4–5 staff.

➤ FUN AND REFRESHMENTS

The day also includes a school tour, a snack break, and a treat of our popular hot chocolate, making the experience feel fun and relaxed. Most students enjoy the day as it resembles a typical school day rather than a formal test.

➤ OBSERVATION OF SOCIAL SKILLS

Teachers observe how students interact, engage, and tackle challenges throughout the day.



NEXT STEPS

We limit our candidates to a maximum of 200 to be assessed, with around 75 invited for interview. You will be informed if your daughter has been selected for an interview, usually the following week. No individual feedback is provided after the assessment day. Following interviews, outcomes are: offer of a place, place on the waiting list, or unsuccessful.

IMPORTANT DATES

31ST OCTOBER 2026

Applications Close

5TH – 6TH JANUARY 2027

Assessment Days

MID-END JANUARY

Interviews

EARLY FEBRUARY

Offers Sent



BUTE HOUSE

QUESTIONS?

➤ **IS BUTE HOUSE A FEEDER SCHOOL FOR ST PAUL'S GIRLS' SCHOOL?**

No. While Bute House was originally St Paul's Junior School, it has been fully independent since 1958. We do share a historic association with the Mercers' Company and make use of some of St Paul's Girls' facilities, such as the sports field, courts and swimming pool. However, entry to St Paul's Girls' School is entirely through their own admissions process. Bute House pupils, like all other applicants, must sit the entrance exam, and places are offered only to those who meet the required criteria.

➤ **WHAT SHOULD WE TELL OUR CURRENT HEAD AND OUR DAUGHTER ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT DAY?**

We recommend being open and honest. Your daughter's current Head will be fully aware of the 7+ process, and no Head will be less supportive of your child simply because you are exploring different options. Likewise, it is best to let your daughter know that you are considering schools. It can be unsettling for a child to feel that it's a secret, and she may well see familiar faces at the assessment. Please note, we do not contact your daughter's current Head or request a reference as part of our process. In line with the GSA and IAPS code of conduct, we do, however, inform Heads once offers have been made.

➤ **ARE THERE PRACTICE PAPERS WE CAN GET HOLD OF?**

No. We do not provide or recommend practice papers. Our assessment is designed by us afresh each year and is designed to be age-appropriate, engaging, and to help us see how each girl thinks and approaches tasks on the day. There are no computer-based tests, and we do not use verbal or non-verbal reasoning papers. Please beware of companies claiming to have "Bute House practice papers" - this is misleading.



➤ I HEAR MY DAUGHTER SHOULD BE TUTORED FOR THE BUTE ASSESSMENTS. IS THIS TRUE?

No. Tutoring is not necessary. As long as your daughter is working confidently within the Year 1 curriculum and the early part of Year 2, she will be well prepared for our English and maths assessments. The best preparation you can give her is simply to read together regularly. In fact, tutoring can sometimes disadvantage children, as we are looking for natural thinking and problem-solving rather than rehearsed responses. We do, of course, understand that some children with English as an additional language may be receiving, or may have received, extra support with English.

➤ WILL BUTE REQUEST A REFERENCE FROM MY DAUGHTER'S CURRENT SCHOOL?

No, we do not ask for references from current schools. We feel that the information we accrue from the assessments and observations during our assessment days is the most pertinent to informing our decisions.

➤ HOW MANY PLACES ARE ALLOCATED TO STATE SCHOOL CHILDREN?

We do not set aside a fixed number of places for children from either state or independent schools. Each application is considered carefully, and we take a child's educational background into account up to the point of application.





Thank You

Please complete the 7+ 2027 Assessment Confirmation Form and submit the fee as soon as possible, as we are approaching our maximum of 200 candidates.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or need assistance, our Admissions Team will be happy to help.



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