



Category 4 Guidance Sheet: Admission Through Musical Aptitude



Applications for Year 7 in September 2024

We encourage pupils with a love of, and talent for, music to apply for a place at St Anne's on the basis of musical aptitude and grant up to 20 girls each year the opportunity to apply for a place in Year 7 under category 4 (musical aptitude). Our music department is excellent and provides outstanding opportunities for your daughter while she is a pupil at St Anne's.

How is musical aptitude assessed?

Musical aptitude is assessed using a 60 question, multiple choice test which lasts approximately 45 minutes. The assessment has four sections: Pitch, Melody, Texture and Rhythm. It does not require any previous coaching or instrumental lessons and there is no preparation that your daughter can or should do before the assessment.

Who is eligible to take the musical aptitude test?

Any student applying for a place at St Anne's to join Year 7 in September 2024 can register to sit the musical aptitude test, regardless of whether or not they have had any formal music tuition, play an instrument or the category they would otherwise be applying under.

How do I register my daughter to take the musical aptitude test?

Parents/guardians wishing their daughter to sit the musical aptitude test must **contact the Admissions team** by email (admissions@st-annes.uk.com) or phone (02380 328200) to register **by 4pm on the Monday following our open evening (for admission to year 7)**. This is the **registration deadline**. The date of our open evening is in late September or early October and is published on our web page. **This year, the registration deadline is 4pm on Monday 2 October.**

Applications to sit the assessment made after this time will not be accommodated.

When and where will the musical aptitude test take place?

For applicants to Year 7 for a September 2024 start, the musical aptitude test will take place on at **3.45pm on Wednesday 4 October**, at St Anne's Catholic School. Applicants and their parent/guardian should report to Reception on arrival.

Please note:

- Parents/guardians must wait in school while their child takes the assessment.
- There is no parking available onsite but there is a public car park just down the road or a number of short stay parking bays in the roads surrounding the school.
- ~~The date will be confirmed when the date of the Open Evening is confirmed—usually towards the end of the summer term.~~

What will the test involve?

- **Pitch:** 20 questions. Candidates will hear two sounds and have to indicate whether the second sound is the same as the first, higher or lower than the first.
- **Melody:** 10 questions. Candidates will hear two tunes consisting of five notes and have to indicate whether the second is the same or different from the first. If a note has been altered, candidates will be expected to identify which note, by giving the number.
- **Texture:** 20 questions. Candidates will hear a number of notes played together at the same time and have to indicate whether they can hear two, three or four pitches.
- **Rhythm:** 10 questions. Candidates will hear two four beat rhythms and have to decide whether the second pattern is the same as, or different from, the first and where any difference occurs.

When will I find out if my daughter has been successful?

You will be notified of your daughters score and whether or not she is able to apply for a Year 7 place under category 4 as soon as possible after the test via email. If we do not hold an email address for you, we will contact you by letter. This will allow you to make final decisions in time for the 31st October deadline for the Common Application Form.

How will the opportunity to apply under Category 4 (musical aptitude) awarded?

- The opportunity to apply under category 4 will be offered to up to 20 girls who have achieved the test pass mark of 37 out of 60 or above.
- If more than 20 applicants pass the musical aptitude test, the 20 applicants with the highest scores will be offered the opportunity to apply under category 4.

What if my daughter needs special consideration because of medical or Special Educational Needs?

Parents should write to the Admissions Officer (admissions@st-annes.uk.com) by the registration deadline, enclosing/attaching a doctor's certificate explaining medical needs or a letter from your current school as evidence of Special Educational Needs requiring special consideration during the testing.

What if my daughter is ill on the date of the Musical Aptitude test?

- If a candidate is ill, please contact the Admissions team (admissions@st-annes.uk.com) by 5pm on the date of the test.
- Any candidates who have notified the Admissions team that they are unable to attend the planned date due to illness will be offered an alternative date to attend and complete the assessment.
- If a candidate fails to notify the school by 5pm on the date of the test that she cannot attend due to illness, she is unable to be considered by the Governors in this category.

What happens in the event of a tie-break?

- In the event that more than one student has achieved the 20th highest score (above pass mark), the tie break criteria from the admissions policy will be applied.

If my daughter qualifies to apply under Categories 1, 2 or 3 should she still apply to complete the musical aptitude test?

- If your daughter definitely qualifies to apply under Categories 1, 2 or 3 there is no benefit to her undertaking the musical aptitude test as students are categorised based on the highest category they apply for.
- If you are in any way unsure if your daughter will qualify for category 1, 2 or 3 please contact the Admissions team (admissions@st-annes.uk.com), prior to the deadline for registering for the musical aptitude test for advice.