



SHREWSBURY
HOUSE SCHOOL

REASONING



Enriching and broadening reasoning skills, to prepare for future success.

Reasoning skills are taught in the Younger to Middle Years at Shrewsbury House. Reasoning comprises two areas: Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning. Although this subject is taught as a specific area of the curriculum, the work the boys cover helps to support learning undertaken in English and mathematics spatial skills.

Verbal Reasoning tests our boys' facility with language to measure their wider reasoning ability. The results give an indication of how pupils assimilate new information, and highlight their skills in verbal thinking above and beyond their formal literacy abilities.

Non-Verbal Reasoning tests our boys' ability to recognise similarities, analogies and patterns in unfamiliar designs. The mental processes required to complete these tests demonstrate how pupils understand and assimilate new information.

The enjoyment of Reasoning lies in the ability to appreciate pattern and order, to solve puzzles and to show an interest in vocabulary. It is hoped that these skills will challenge the boys to think and that this practice will prove beneficial in all academic subjects and equip them well in life.

It is intended the boys will feel confident and happy when completing Reasoning and Cognitive tests for the Senior Schools' selection process. The boys are prepared thoroughly for the Pre- assessments to Senior Schools which are mainly sat during Year 6.

In the first year of Reasoning, our boys are taught a range of strategies and skills in both Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning and how to apply these both on paper and on-line. In subsequent years, the boys re-visit the skills they were taught but at a more advanced level and increase their use of Non-Verbal skills, particularly online. This culminates in an extension of their skills at an even higher level, where boys are given the opportunity to undertake practice tests in preparation for the Pre-assessments.

Miss S-L Fifer B.Ed (Hons)
Head of Reasoning

Please note that the above subject information has been produced in good faith and is correct as of September 2020. We reserve the right to make changes to the curriculum and whilst we will endeavour to offer any trips and competitions mentioned above, we cannot guarantee that they will always take place every year.