



Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Aptitude Test for entry into Ashlawn 2023-2024

Terms and Conditions

Section 1 APPLYING FOR THE APTITUDE TEST

- 1.1 An application for the MFL Aptitude Test is **not** an application for a place at Ashlawn School. Please visit <https://www.ashlawn.org.uk/admissions> for full details on how to apply for a place at Ashlawn School via the Warwickshire County Council admissions service.
- 1.2 The MFL Aptitude Test is used for the admission of students entering Year 7 only. Register using the on-line form for the MFL Aptitude Test on the Ashlawn School website <https://www.ashlawn.org.uk/admissions/modern-foreign-language-aptitude-test/>
- 1.3 The deadline for applying for the MFL Aptitude Test is **Friday 8th July 2022**. Upon submission, applicants will receive a receipt confirming the completed application form was received. In the weeks following, an email detailing the date and time of the test and a declaration sheet entitled Fit and Well will be sent via email. This declaration sheet must be completed and brought with you on the day of the test. Your child will not be able to sit the test without this Fit and Well declaration.
- 1.4 The test date will be advised with at least 2 weeks' notice.
- 1.5 An alternative test date will only be available to applicants who provide proof of illness on the day of the test in the form of a doctor's note, or who are able to provide evidence of special circumstances prior to the date of the test. Please contact the school for further information.
- 1.6 For identification purposes applicants must provide a passport-sized head and shoulders photograph of the child taking the test. Alternatively you may bring a photocopy of the child's current passport on the day. **Any applicant without a photograph or photocopy of their passport will not be able to take the test.**
- 1.7 Any applications for the MFL Aptitude Test received after 8th July 2022 will be classed as late. We cannot guarantee a place on the test date for late entries.
- 1.8 Results will be communicated to parents electronically. You will receive the standardised score for each section of the test together with a total standardised score.



Section 2. ABOUT THE TEST

- 2.1 The MFL Aptitude Test is researched and produced by an external agency. Research is conducted by the agency into assessing for aptitude to learn Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) and how to assess aptitude in children. Research¹ suggests that cognitive talent assessed by the Aptitude Test plays a significant role in language development. This test therefore indicates the likelihood that a child will perform highly when learning a new language such as those taught by Ashlawn's MFL department.
- 2.2 The MFL Aptitude Test comprises four parts:
- 2.2.1 *Sound-symbol association* measures an aptitude for associating words to their sounds and involves incorrect and alternative spellings of English words.
- 2.2.2 *Grammatical structure* focuses on the function of a particular word within a sentence.
- 2.2.3 *Finding rhymes* is the identification of rhyming words and measures an aptitude for 'hearing' words as they are written on the page.
- 2.2.4 *Number learning* is about remembering the sounds of numbers in a fictitious language. The student will practise speaking and writing the words before the main test begins. Listening and memorising words forms a significant part of learning a modern foreign language at Key Stage 3.
- 2.3 Due to the nature of testing *aptitude to learn* rather than *ability* or *knowledge*, practice questions will not be made available.
- 2.4 Students may only sit the MFL Aptitude Test once. This applies even if the student's test was not completed.

Section 3. RESULTS and ADMISSION

- 3.1 The MFL Aptitude Test forms part of the over-subscription criteria for Ashlawn School. Please see the document *Admissions Policy – Academic Year 2023-24* for full information on the admissions process into Ashlawn School. This is available on the Ashlawn School website.
- 3.2 The MFL Aptitude Test does not form any part of the criteria for a selective place at Ashlawn School. Selective places are based on the 11+ examination only. Please see the document *Admissions Policy – Academic Year 2023-24* for more information on this process. This is available on the Ashlawn School website.
- 3.3 Admission into Ashlawn School by aptitude for the study of a modern foreign language complies with section 1.24 of the School Admissions Code 2021.

¹ In order to maintain security of the test, we cannot provide full details of the agency conducting the research. Please contact Ashlawn School directly for more information.



- 3.4 Ashlawn will admit no more than 10% of the full Year 7 intake based on the results of the MFL Aptitude Test. This complies with the Schools Admissions Code 2021.
- 3.5 Parents will be informed of the outcome of the MFL Aptitude Test electronically.
- 3.6 Scores for each section of the test will be standardised to account for possible variations according to age on the date of the test. The method by which this is done reflects that of the 11+ examination. Parents will receive the scores for each section and a total standardised score.
- 3.7 Student admission will be based on rank according to the total standardised scores. Students with the highest ranking will be offered a place.
- 3.8 Those students who are not awarded a place at the school following results of the MFL Aptitude Test will automatically be assessed against the remaining over-subscription criteria for Ashlawn School. Should a student not be successful in gaining a place at Ashlawn they will automatically be placed on the waiting list and given the opportunity to appeal the decision.

END OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS