



Brighter Minds Tuition

Information

Brighter Minds Broadstone is situated in the Community and Arts Centre, 21 Dunyeats Road, Broadstone BH18 8AB. It is opposite the gates of Broadstone First School. There is limited free parking adjacent to the building, but please do not park in the spaces owned by the other organisations.

We operate an open-door policy, where tutoring rooms always have their doors open.

Every session is designed to be relaxed and friendly, to remove any fear or anxiety in the students. There is an air of competition involved too, as the 11 Plus is an academic competition.

Students are encouraged to be themselves in the sessions, but poor behaviour and a lack of respect is not tolerated. If this happens, then I will speak to you or contact you to let you know and if it reoccurs then you will have to find another tutor.

The building is used by other people, so please be aware that they may be clubs running, so try to be respectful to those people.

Payment for the sessions must be made before the sessions can start, with the monthly sessions being invoiced in advance.

If your child is ill, then please don't bring them to the session. I will happily rollover the session or try to fit them into another session. Please remember if I get ill, then there aren't any sessions.

Please don't start practising at home till Easter (if you need to). I will teach them how to tackle the skills in the most efficient way, other people teaching other methods will only confuse your child.

In-class tests will allow you to know how well your child is doing, compared to the cohort.

Lastly, I will hold a parent event in the October half-term, so please attend if you can and ask as many questions as you like.

Preparing your child for the 11 Plus.

These are some ideas to give your child the best start to the 11 Plus process. I will hold a parent information event during the year, which give you a chance to ask lots of questions.

- Practise their times tables up to 12 (15s are a bonus).
- Understand that $8 \times 7 = 56$, so 56 divided by 7 is 8 etc.
- Practise mental maths ($21 - 8 =$ or $19 + 17 =$).
- Practise basic math methods (column methods).
- Shapes are a big part of the test, so have them remember as many shapes as possible.
- Read as widely and as frequently as possible, without it becoming a chore.
- Factual magazines count as reading.
- Try not to use electronic gadgets to practise, use a pencil and paper.
- Have your child explain how to use basic punctuation (commas, question marks, exclamation marks, apostrophes and speech).
- Do they know what a verb, adjective, proper noun, adverb and common noun are?
- Can they tell a simile from a metaphor?
- Don't overload them with other practice books, the ones we use will be sufficient.
- Write down a list of ten words from a book, misspell half of them and have your child spot the bad spellings.

Golden rules:

- If your child doesn't read regularly, they will struggle to pass the 11 Plus.
- If they don't know their times tables up to 12, they will struggle with the maths.
- They need to make mistakes; it is part of their learning.
- Being respectful is a major part of my sessions, if your child repeatedly interrupts the learning of other students then they will have to leave.
- Minimise your child's time on electronic devices, it will affect their memory.
- The 11 Plus is a family event, they will need your time and your support.

11+ preparation reading list

Read a book off the list (classics are best), get them to read a paragraph to you and you read one to them. Get them to ask you a question about what you read and vice versa. Make reading fun and informative, rather than a chore.

Reading a wider range of books allows for more exposure to higher level vocabulary. Fiction and non-fiction will be part of the test.

Try giving your child a new book, have them read the first page and write down all the words they don't understand in a journal. Then they find the words in a dictionary, write down the meaning of the words and try to explain to you what the words mean.

The books of Enid Blyton

Percy Jackson series by Rick Riordan

Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling

A series of unfortunate events series - Lemony Snicket

The Borrowers series - Mary Norton

Swallows and Amazons - Arthur Ransome

The Railway Children - E. Nesbit

Robinson Crusoe - Daniel Defoe

The Hobbit - J.R.R Tolkien

The Spiderwick chronicles - Holly Black

The books of Michael Morpurgo

The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson

Charlotte's Web – E B White

Goodnight Mr Tom – Michelle Magorian

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe – C S Lewis

Tom's Midnight Garden – Philippa Pearce

Five Children and It – E Nesbit

Stig of the Dump – Clive King