FREE SAMPLE

Lincolnshire 11+ Revision Handbook: revision handbook

A revision handbook for the Lincolnshire 11+: 43 lessons teaching the methods for verbal reasoning and non-verbal reasoning, with worked examples, practice questions, must-know lists and a 12-week plan.

In this sample

- The contents and how to use the handbook
- About the test, with the schools that use it
- The 12-week revision plan
- The first lessons of a subject chapter
- The first page of the answers

In the full handbook

- A lesson for every topic and question type in the test, with methods, worked examples and practice
- Test skills: timing, answer sheets, checking and test day
- Must-know lists, a 12-week plan and answers with explanations

Original practice material, written for NITU. Not an official paper and not produced by any school, council, consortium or test provider. Where the real test's details are not published, the papers say so and label our choice as an assumption. Practice cannot predict a result and does not guarantee a place.

You may print this sample for use in your own household.

NITU · Next Intake Test Uplift · Digichange Publication

Contents

How to use this handbook	3
About the test	4
Your 12-week revision plan	5
Test skills (S1–S6)	6
Verbal reasoning (V1–V22)	12
Non-verbal reasoning (N1–N15)	34
Must-know lists	50
Answers and explanations	51

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser’s own household only; not for resale or sharing.

How to use this handbook

Each lesson teaches one topic or question type on one or two pages:

- **How to do it**: the method, step by step.
- **Worked example**: the method used on a real question, with every step shown.
- **Watch out**: the mistakes that cost the most marks.
- **Practice**: short questions to try, from easier to harder. Answers and explanations are at the back.

Follow the 12-week plan, or dip into the lessons your child finds hardest. Little and often works better than long sessions.

S1–S6	Test skills	6 lessons
V1–V22	Verbal reasoning	22 lessons
N1–N15	Non-verbal reasoning	15 lessons

Every question in this handbook is original. Answers were checked, but if you find a mistake please tell us and we will correct it.

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser’s own household only; not for resale or sharing.

About the test

This handbook covers the skills tested in the **Lincolnshire 11+**, based on the published format where details are published. Each row below says how sure we are: **Published** means the organisers publish it; **Reported** means it comes from other sources and should be checked; **Our assumption** means it is not published and we made a sensible choice.

Reported	Two tests only, verbal reasoning and non-verbal and spatial reasoning, with no English or maths. They are sat on separate Saturdays in September (for 2027 entry: 12 and 19 September 2026), with results emailed in October.
Reported	The tests are sat once and shared across the Lincolnshire grammar schools. Caistor Grammar School runs a different arrangement (two verbal reasoning papers).
Reported	For 2027 entry, school pages gave registration from January to late March 2026 (sources differ on the exact closing date); dates for 2028 entry are expected around January 2027. A qualifying score of 220 is quoted by tutoring sites but is not confirmed by the schools.
Our assumption	The number of questions, the time allowed (about 45 minutes for verbal reasoning and 40 minutes for non-verbal and spatial), the question types, the multiple-choice layout and five answer options. The schools do not publish these and say the live layout may differ from practice material.

Always check dates, registration and the latest format with your chosen school's admissions page. Formats and providers change.

Schools that use this test

Boston High School, Boston
Bourne Grammar School, Bourne
Caistor Grammar School, Market Rasen
Carre's Grammar School, Sleaford
Kesteven and Grantham Girls' School, Grantham
Kesteven and Sleaford High School Selective Academy, Sleaford
King Edward VI Grammar School, Louth
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar Alford - A Selective Academy, Alford
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Horncastle, Horncastle
Skegness Grammar School, Skegness
Spalding Grammar School, Spalding
Spalding High School, Spalding
The Boston Grammar School, Boston
The King's School, Grantham, Grantham
The Queen Elizabeth's High School, Gainsborough, Gainsborough

This handbook is independent. It is based on the published format of the test where details are published, and it is not an official publication. It is not produced by or endorsed by any school, council, consortium or test provider. Practice cannot predict a result and does not guarantee a place.

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser's own household only; not for resale or sharing.

Your 12-week revision plan

Aim for four or five short sessions a week of 20–30 minutes. In each session, read one lesson, do its worked examples together, then try the practice questions and mark them with the answers at the back. Tick the week off when it is done. Move faster or slower to suit your child; start with the test skills chapter in week 1.

Week	Lessons	Done
1	**V1** Closest meaning; **V2** Opposite meaning; **V3** Closest pair; **N1** The NVR checklist; **N2** Series	
2	**V4** Odd ones out; **V5** Word relationships; **N3** Arrow series	
3	**V6** Make a new word; **V7** Missing three letters; **N4** Odd one out; **N5** Odd arrow out	
4	**V8** Hidden words; **V9** Move a letter; **N6** Reflections (upright mirror)	
5	**V10** Missing letter; **V11** Alphabet tools; **N7** Reflections (flat mirror); **N8** Pairs	
6	**V12** Alphabet positions; **V13** Letter series; **V14** Letter pairs; **N9** Most like these two	
7	**V15** Letter relationships; **V16** Word codes; **N10** Hidden shapes; **N11** Grids	
8	**V17** Number codes; **V18** Number series; **N12** Same shape, turned	
9	**V19** Missing numbers; **V20** Balance the sum; **N13** Codes; **N14** Cube nets	
10	**V21** Letter sums; **V22** Reasoning; **N15** 3D and spatial thinking	
11	Mixed practice: redo every practice question you got wrong. Sit a full timed mock test.	
12	Second timed mock test. Revisit the lessons for the question types that still cost marks. Read the test skills chapter again.	

For weeks 11 and 12 you need full mock tests set out like the real test, such as a Lincolnshire 11+ four-test pack. Use raw mock scores to see progress over time; they cannot be converted into the standardised scores used in the real test.

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser’s own household only; not for resale or sharing.

Verbal reasoning

22 lessons: **V1** Closest meaning; **V2** Opposite meaning; **V3** Closest pair; **V4** Odd ones out; **V5** Word relationships; **V6** Make a new word; **V7** Missing three letters; **V8** Hidden words; **V9** Move a letter; **V10** Missing letter; **V11** Alphabet tools; **V12** Alphabet positions; **V13** Letter series; **V14** Letter pairs; **V15** Letter relationships; **V16** Word codes; **V17** Number codes; **V18** Number series; **V19** Missing numbers; **V20** Balance the sum; **V21** Letter sums; **V22** Reasoning.

V1 Closest meaning

You are given a word in capitals and five words in brackets. You choose the word in brackets that means nearly the same as the word in capitals. These are called synonyms.

HOW TO DO IT

1. Read the word in capitals and say what it means in your own words, before you look at the options.
2. Put the word in capitals into a short sentence, such as 'The road was very ___.'
3. Swap each word in brackets into your sentence. The right one keeps the meaning the same.
4. Cross out any option that means the opposite. Opposites are often put there to catch you.
5. If two options seem close, pick the one that matches the word most exactly, not just loosely.

WORKED EXAMPLE

SILENT (noisy, quiet, empty, dark, slow)

Answer: quiet. Silent means making no sound. 'The room was silent' and 'The room was quiet' mean nearly the same. Noisy is the opposite, so it is a trap.

WORKED EXAMPLE

BRIGHT (dark, clever, heavy, loud, plain)

Answer: clever. Bright has two meanings: shining, and clever. 'Shining' is not in the list, so the answer is the other meaning: a bright pupil is a clever pupil.

WATCH OUT

- Do not choose the opposite by mistake. Check you have the 'same' meaning, not the 'different' one.
- Do not stop at the first word that seems linked. Try every option, then pick the closest.
- Remember that many words have more than one meaning. If no option fits the meaning you first thought of, try another meaning.
- Do not pick a word just because it often appears next to the word in capitals (like 'cold' and 'winter').

Quick tip: Keep a vocabulary notebook. Each week, write five new words with two synonyms for each.

PRACTICE (6 QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AT THE BACK)

1. SPEEDY (quick, late, slow, tall, calm) Answer: _____

2. DAMAGE (harm, help, clean, mend, build) Answer: _____

3. SNEAK (creep, shout, march, leap, stamp) Answer: _____

4. TRANSFORM (change, keep, repair, copy, carry) Answer: _____

5. RIDICULOUS (sensible, clever, silly, serious, careful) Answer: _____

6. ASTONISHED (amazed, proud, patient, bored, calm) Answer: _____

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser's own household only; not for resale or sharing.

V2 Opposite meaning

You are given a word in capitals and five words in brackets. You choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning. These are called antonyms.

HOW TO DO IT

1. Read the word in capitals and decide what it means.
2. Think of an opposite yourself before you look at the options.
3. Look for your opposite, or a word that means the same as your opposite.
4. Cross out words that mean the same as the word in capitals. These are traps.
5. Check your choice with 'If something is not ___, it is ___.'

WORKED EXAMPLE

ASCEND (climb, descend, rise, rush, stop)

Answer: descend. Ascend means go up. The opposite is go down, which is descend. Climb and rise mean the same as ascend, so they are traps.

WORKED EXAMPLE

FEW (some, many, none, little, several)

Answer: many. Few means a small number. The opposite is a large number, which is many. 'None' is even fewer, so it is not the opposite.

WATCH OUT

- Do not choose a synonym. The question asks for the opposite, and synonyms are often in the list.
- Do not choose a word that is just different. 'Hot' and 'wet' are different, but they are not opposites.
- Watch for prefixes such as un-, in-, dis- and im-. They often make opposites (kind, unkind).

Quick tip: Learn opposites in pairs, for example generous and mean, ancient and modern, scarce and plentiful.

PRACTICE (6 QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AT THE BACK)

1. BOTTOM (top, side, end, floor, base) Answer: _____

2. STALE (sour, fresh, hard, dry, old) Answer: _____

3. INNOCENT (young, calm, kind, honest, guilty) Answer: _____

4. REFUSE (ignore, deny, reject, accept, decline) Answer: _____

5. GRADUAL (steady, gentle, slow, sudden, careful) Answer: _____

6. REVEAL (expose, show, display, uncover, hide) Answer: _____

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser's own household only; not for resale or sharing.

V3 Closest pair

There are two groups of three words. You choose one word from each group so that the two words are closest in meaning.

HOW TO DO IT

1. Take the first word in the first group. Look along the second group for a word with the same meaning.
2. Do the same for the second and third words in the first group.
3. Ignore pairs that are opposites. The question wants the same meaning.
4. Write your answer in order: the word from the first group, then the word from the second group.

WORKED EXAMPLE

(little, happy, cold) (big, small, warm)

Answer: little, small. Little and small mean the same. Little and big are opposites, and cold and warm are opposites, so they do not fit.

WATCH OUT

- Do not be fooled by opposites. Each group is often built with opposite pairs to tempt you.
- Do not pick two words that are just linked, like 'rain' and 'umbrella'. They must mean the same.
- Check every word in the first group. The answer is not always the first word.

Quick tip: Draw a line between the two words when you find a match. If you draw two lines, check which pair is closer.

PRACTICE (6 QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AT THE BACK)

1. (start, wet, loud) (damp, finish, quiet) Answer: _____

2. (shut, laugh, full) (giggle, open, empty) Answer: _____

3. (near, enjoy, early) (far, late, like) Answer: _____

4. (polite, fresh, clever) (stale, rude, smart) Answer: _____

5. (weary, eager, ancient) (exhausted, modern, reluctant) Answer: _____

6. (fortunate, generous, sincere) (lucky, selfish, false) Answer: _____

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser's own household only; not for resale or sharing.

Answers and explanations

S1 · How to revise

1	**It is better to split it into short sessions of about 20 to 30 minutes across the week.** Little and often helps you remember for longer, and short sessions keep you fresh.
2	**Write it in her mistakes log with the correct method, then try a similar question a few days later.** Spotting a pattern in your mistakes shows you exactly what to practise next.
3	**Stop early, do something relaxing and get a good night's sleep.** Being rested helps you think clearly; last-minute cramming rarely helps.

S2 · Multiple-choice answer sheets

1	**Check back to find where it went wrong, rub out the marks carefully and move them to the correct rows.** One slip can push all the following answers into the wrong rows, so it is worth fixing straight away.
2	**Mark a guess for each one, crossing out any options she can quickly rule out.** In most tests there is no penalty for a wrong answer, so a blank can never score but a guess might.
3	**Rub out the line in box B completely, then mark box D with a single clear line.** A half-rubbed mark may be read as a second answer.

S3 · Timing

1	**45 seconds**	30 minutes is 1,800 seconds, and 1,800 ÷ 40 = 45.
2	**Question 25**	Half the time has gone, so you should be about halfway through: 50 ÷ 2 = 25.
3	**Make his best guess, mark the question to come back to, and move on.** Getting stuck costs time that could earn marks on easier questions later.	

S4 · Checking

1	**50 × 20 = 1,000, which is close to 1,029, so the answer is sensible.** Rounding both numbers gives a quick rough answer to compare with.
2	**Work out 13 × 12, which is 156, so she is right.** Multiplication undoes division.
3	**She added instead of finding the difference. The answer is 15.** "How many more" means subtract: 34 − 19 = 15. Re-reading the question would have caught this.

S5 · Test day and nerves

1	**Take a slow breath, read it again, and if it is still hard, guess, mark it and move on.** Later questions may be easier, and she can come back with a calmer mind.
2	**Two sharp pencils, a rubber and anything else the letter asks for, such as a ruler or a water bottle; no calculator.** Calculators are not usually allowed (check the letter), and spare pencils mean a broken one is not a problem.
3	**A good breakfast, some slow breathing and reminding himself he has prepared.** Food, calm breathing and positive thoughts help settle nerves.

S6 · For parents

1	**No. It is a raw score; real results are usually standardised and depend on the whole group taking the test.** Use the paper to spot weak topics and track progress over time, not to predict a result.
2	**Stop for the day, reassure them and take a short break before starting again with something easier.** Confidence matters; pushing on when upset rarely helps learning.
3	**Not necessarily. Short, regular sessions that suit your child are usually more effective.** Every child is different, and too much practice can lead to tiredness and lost confidence.

V1 · Closest meaning

1	**quick**	Speedy means quick.
2	**harm**	Damage means harm.
3	**creep**	Sneak means creep.
4	**change**	Transform means change.
5	**silly**	Ridiculous means silly.
6	**amazed**	Astonished means amazed.

© 2026 Digichange Publication. For use by the purchaser’s own household only; not for resale or sharing.