



12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

**RE: Year 7 Cognitive Ability Tests**

Students in Year 7 will be taking Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT4s) during lesson time beginning in the week commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025. These are online tests which will be conducted on computers and will take a double lesson to complete.

CAT4 is an assessment of developed abilities in areas known to make a difference to learning and achievement – namely verbal, non-verbal, quantitative, and spatial reasoning – and provides schools and families with an analysis of potential student achievement.

The assessments provide an understanding of what a child is capable of, as well as identifying which students have the potential to achieve more and those who need support in certain subjects. A student with a low quantitative score may struggle with Maths, for instance, while one with a low verbal score may find it difficult to access the curriculum. The assessments are curriculum-independent, focusing on ability and potential, providing the school with information about how our pupils learn.

Please note, the CAT4 tests are not an assessment of subject specific knowledge. These assessments **do not require any preparation** by the students. The tests are designed to be taken without any revision or preparation so they can assess a child's potential in their ability to reason. CATs are not testing children's knowledge and understanding as a Maths or English exam might, so they can't 'learn' how to answer the questions. Exam Access Arrangements will also not apply to these CATS test.

If you have any questions regarding the information in the report, please refer to the FAQ section on the next page. For any further questions, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

As always, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to email your child's Form tutor in the first instance.

Yours faithfully

Miss Foley  
Head of Year 7

Mr Deale  
Assistant Principal  
Student Outcome

CAT testing timetable

Day - Week A	Lessons 1 and 2	Lessons 3 and 4
Monday 15th September		7b/En2
Monday 15th September		7b/En1
Tuesday 16th September	7a/En2	
Tuesday 16th September	7a/En1	
Wednesday 17th September		7b/En3
Wednesday 17th September		7b/En4
Thursday 18th September	7a/En3	
Thursday 18th September	7a/En4	
Friday 19th September	Catch up session	