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13 September 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of some extra academic assessments of our Year 7 cohort that will take place over the next few weeks.

As we would like to fully understand our pupils' potential, all Year 7 pupils will complete a series of <u>Cognitive Ability Tests (4</u>) during three IT lessons. Pupils should not concern themselves with the outcomes of these tests; nor should they prepare for them in any way. They should see the occasion as an opportunity to reflect on their ability.

<u>Cognitive Ability Test 4</u> will provide a unique profile of strengths and weaknesses across four batteries:-

- Verbal Reasoning the ability to express ideas and reason through words is essential to subjects with a high language content, and the most obvious skill picked up by traditional assessment.
- **Non-verbal Reasoning** problem-solving using pictures and diagrams; skills which are important in a wide range of school subjects, including maths and science-based subjects.
- Spatial Reasoning the capacity to think and draw conclusions in three dimensions, needed for many STEM subjects, but not easily measured by other datasets.
- Quantitative Reasoning the ability to use numerical skills to solve problems, applicable well beyond mathematics.

We anticipate that these tests will provide us with a rounded profile of pupil ability so that we can target support, provide the right level of challenge and make informed decisions about pupils' progress.

If you would like to access further information on these tests then please contact myself at school or follow the link provided <u>https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/</u>

Pupils must bring their own headphones with them on the day of their IT lesson as they will be needed during the tests (standard headphones with a 3.5mm jack are required).

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Anne Janie Doolars

A DOOLAN (Mrs) Associate Assistant Headteacher