

# HaileyburyTurnford

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12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## Re: Year 9 - New Group Reading Test (NGRT)

Over the next 2 weeks all Year 9 students will be taking the NGRT in order to measure their reading age and to provide us with a benchmark coming out of lockdown and prior to the start of their KS4 journey.

The reading test is designed to “drill down” into the student’s reading and comprehension skills (including phonics where necessary for very low reading ages) and the test will reveal exactly where support is needed. The NGRT can compare a students’ decoding skills and sentence completion against their passage comprehension allowing us to identify, for instance, competent decoders with weak comprehension skills. This level of analysis will provide our teaching staff with crucial information in order to alter schemes of learning and providing targeted materials to different students depending on their reading age.

We know that low levels of literacy can limit a child’s future opportunities. After taking the NGRT teachers will be able to benchmark students against a national standard and assess the impact that interventions might be having on their current performance levels.

### What is the test made up of?

The test is made of two parts: sentence completion, which measures decoding with some element of comprehension; and passage comprehension, which measures a range of comprehension skills of increasing difficulty. The online test is adaptive and will alter questions based on the age and answer that each student provides. The test will aim to challenge the student to find out their most accurate reading age.

### Can my child study for the NGRT?

There is no way that a student can prepare for this test. This test will assess what a student can do which can only be improved over time therefore it is crucial that reading for leisure at home is a regular part of each and every day for your child. I would encourage you to begin this journey with them now to ensure they achieve their potential during KS4.

### How will the test be administered?

The NGRT will be taken during a dedicated window and administered by Mr Walsh who will ensure that students follow the guidelines to successfully complete this assessment to the best of their ability.

If you have any further questions about the NGRT please do not hesitate to get in contact with Mr Walsh via email [walshb@haileyburyturnford.com](mailto:walshb@haileyburyturnford.com)

Yours faithfully



**Mr B Walsh**

Assistant Principal



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