

HaileyburyTurnford

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10th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4)

Year 6 students did not take part in their Standardised Assessment Testing (SATs) in May 2021 leaving Secondary schools without any reliable information on prior achievement or abilities. The SAT tests provide schools with useful baselines in terms of a student's Maths, Reading and Spelling and Grammar abilities which we use to help shape curriculum and intervention throughout Key Stage 3. Now that we have had 7 weeks of school and all of our Year 7 students are fully immersed into our curriculum we will be administering the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4) to all students during the week beginning Monday 15 November.

CAT4 is a diagnostic assessment that is designed to help students and their teachers understand how they learn and what their academic potential might be. It assesses how students think in areas that are known to make a difference to learning and application of information.

CAT4 has many uses and can help your child and their teachers to plan appropriately and set targets throughout their schooling. GL Assessments (the provider of the CAT4) have produced a short informative video on the CAT4 which can be found here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0DDUKuQtKc&safe=active>

CAT4 is made up of a series of short tests which assess a student's reasoning (thinking) abilities in key areas that support educational development and academic attainment. No preparation is necessary; **it is important that your child does not become anxious as no pre-learning or knowledge is required to complete the tests.**

All year 7 students have been informed of the CAT4 tests and timings including a short information video which was used in form times to familiarise them with some of the questions they could receive.

After the assessment is finished, we will be in touch again with results and our plans, if any, for further follow-up.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact me walshb@haileyburyturnford.com

Yours faithfully



Mr B Walsh
Assistant Principal



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Registered office: Haileybury Academy Trust, London Road, Hertford Heath, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG13 7NU