



12th October 2018

RE: CATS testing

Dear parents/ guardians,

I am writing to inform you of some important dates where your child will be undertaking a standardised assessment. The assessment is called the GL Assessments CAT 4 test.

Every year over 25,000 students in the UK and overseas participate in this assessment. GL processes this assessment data and creates reports for individual students, their parents and their teachers. The CAT4 Assessment was designed to identify the Cognitive Ability of students based on age appropriate expectations. Cognitive Ability is a pupil's ability to reason with and manipulate different types of material through a series of Verbal, Non-Verbal, Quantitative and Spatial Ability tasks. More details of exactly what this looks like are available, with examples, on the parent report you will receive when the results are delivered to the school.

CAT4 results help us understand the potential for academic attainment. As cognitive ability is not particularly curriculum related, the results will not be significantly influenced by a student's previous schooling or their subject knowledge. This can help teachers to plan lessons, identify learning needs and adapt curriculum areas.

Students will be sitting tests as per the schedule below. It is imperative that students attend school on these days. The tests are completed on a computer and students will need to have headphones. For comfort and hygiene reasons we suggest that students provide their own. We will be able to provide some headphones on the day.

9 Strings and 9 Brass: Tuesday 16th October
10 Percussion and 10 Strings: Wednesday 17th October
9 Percussion and 9 Woodwind: Thursday 18th October

More information can be found here:

<https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/support/cat4-product-support/cat4-information-for-parents/>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mary Li'.

Mary Li
Headmistress