

17th November 2020

J/SLT/AS/LET

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 7 CAT 4 Assessments

I am writing to inform you of some assessments that we are conducting with Year 7 pupils. These are nothing to be concerned about and I will be doing an assembly for the pupils this week to explain the process and why we are conducting them. Due to COVID-19, Key Stage 2 tests did not take place this year and we need to have a full understanding of the potential of each and every child and the type of learner they are. All this information will then help us to support your child in their five years at Hollingworth Academy to achieve the fantastic results that they deserve.

Next week, we will be running a series of Cognitive Ability Assessments (CAT4) with your child. CAT4 provides teachers with information about how best a pupil can learn to their full potential in school. It will also allow us to set a series of GCSE targets for your child, and to further understand the type of learner your child is. Teachers are provided with an individual profile of your child's learning preference along with a range of indicators of likely future performance. Used with other information (such as results from Key Stage 2 SATs, for example), these data sources can support teaching and learning for all children. It assesses how pupils think in areas that are known to make a difference to learning.

While many tests focus on a child's attainment in core subjects, CAT4 is designed to give schools a much broader, more rounded view of each child, their potential and how they learn. Results help teachers decide about the pace of learning that is right for a pupil and whether additional support is needed.

Tasks in the assessment involve thinking about shapes and patterns (non-verbal reasoning), words (verbal reasoning), numbers (quantitative reasoning) and some questions are answered by mentally generating and transforming visual images (spatial ability). All of the CAT 4 assessments are computer based and will be taken over the course of three mornings. These assessments will be taking place in your child's classroom and there is not any additional work or revision pupils will need do for them.

	1 ST SESSION	2 ND SESSION	3 RD SESSION
7CB	Mon P1 - Art	Wed P3 - Digital Literacy	Fri P1 - English
7EH	Mon P1 - Art	Mon P3 - Digital Literacy	Fri P1 - English
7CN	Mon P1 - RE	Tues P3 - Digital Literacy	Fri P1 - English
7JI	Mon P1 - Digital Literacy	Thu P1 - Geography	Fri P1 - English
7CY	Mon P1 - Science	Mon P5 - Digital Literacy	Wed P1 - Transition Lesson
7LG	Tues P1 - English	Tues P2 - Digital Literacy	Wed P1 - Transition Lesson
7DN	Tues P1 - English	Wed P1 - History	Wed P5 - Digital Literacy
7KA	Tues P1 - English	Tues P2 - Digital Literacy	Thu P1 - Science
7DW	Tues P2 - Digital Literacy	Wed P1 - History	Thu P1 - Science
7EE	Tues P1 - English	Wed P1 - Life Skills	Thu P1 - Science

CAT4 is based on years of research and development. The current edition took five years to develop and the involvement of 25,000 pupils across the UK. It is a well-known assessment in schools and teachers value its ability to provide an understanding of what a child is capable of, rather than defining them by their understanding of a body of knowledge in particular subjects.

If you have any questions regarding these assessments then please do not hesitate to contact: Ms J Biddle-Mogg, Senior Assistant Headteacher, on jbiddlemogg@hollingworthacademy.co.uk or Mr A Smale, Deputy Headteacher, on asmale@hollingworthacademy.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

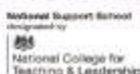


Mr A Smale
Deputy Headteacher

RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



RESILIENCE

