



22 September 2021

Dear Parent /Carer

YEAR 8 BASELINE TESTING : MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER TO FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER 2021

Last year you may remember that your child sat GL assessments. These assessments replaced the usual KS2 SATS that children would normally have sat at the end of the primary phase.

This year we will be continuing to conduct GL assessments in line with all other WeST schools, using this information to ensure that the curriculum meets the needs of all our students and to find out how much progress they are making.

Over the next three weeks all students in Y8 will be sitting a CAT4 (Cognitive Abilities Test). The test runs over three separate sittings that last for 45 minutes each. Students will also sit further assessments in Maths and English between the 8 and 19 of November. The assessments have been timetabled to happen during normal Maths, English and Science lesson time and your child's teachers will be providing them with the date and time of each assessment as well as talking through how the assessments will run.

All assessments are completed on-line and students will sit them in a computer suite. Students will be using headphones supplied by the college unless they would like to bring their own. Please note, headphones will need to have a normal jack plug (iPhone leads will not work) as they will be plugged into the computer units.

Students will be expected to work in silence under usual exam conditions. However, invigilators are allowed to support students with any technical issues, so please make sure your son/daughter knows they can ask for help if they are experiencing any technical problems such as logging in. We will be making sure that technical support is available during the tests to help with any issues that may arise.

The assessments start with some practice questions so students will be able to settle in before starting the real test and students can answer most of the questions at their own pace.

Please reassure your son/daughter that there is no preparation needed in advance of these tests.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Bradford
Assistant Head teacher, Progression