

8th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you that Year 7 students will complete their CATs Test over Tuesday 10th November and Wednesday 11th November.

Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT) are the most widely recognised test of reasoning ability used in schools in the UK. They provide a snapshot of a child's potential, their areas of strength and an indication of how they learn best. The results can help teachers set the right learning pace for each child, monitor their progress and identify areas where they might need extra support or help.

The tests are designed to be taken **without any revision or preparation**. CATs are not testing children's knowledge and understanding, so they cannot 'learn' how to answer the questions, nor are they expected to do so.

We really do hope that these tests do not give rise to any anxiety or worry and are viewed as a positive part of the process of teachers getting to know your child and finding the best ways to support them. We usually run CATs at the very start of term, or sometimes in the summer before the children start. However, due to COVID 19 we took the decision to delay them to ensure a smooth transition to Highgate Wood School. CATs need to be carried out under test conditions, but only so the children are able to focus and apply themselves.

Thank you for your understanding and support. If you have any further questions, please contact me through jbu@hws.haringey.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Jen Burniston
Assistant Headteacher

Highgate Wood School Student Council supports individual action to address the issues of Climate Change and promotes the United Nations top 10 recommendations.

