

Dear Parents/Carers,

During the week beginning Monday 11th October 2021, all of our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils shall be sitting online Cognitive Abilities Tests (CAT4) in school, following the schedule outlined below:

Monday 11th Oct AM	Monday 11th Oct PM	Tuesday 12th Oct AM	Tuesday 12th Oct PM	Wednesday 13th Oct AM	Wednesday 13th Oct PM
8KM	7KD	8JB	7HH	8JBE	7VI
8CF	7HA	8ZM	7EC	8IH	7AN
8PS	7AHO	8JJ	7LWR		7CMO

CAT4 test are the UK's most widely used test of reasoning abilities for children aged 6 - 17 years, designed to provide the broadest picture of pupils' potential for achievement.

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 or challenge is needed.

Tasks 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).

CAT4 is a timed assessment and is administered under formal conditions. However, each section of the assessment includes introductory information with practice examples, and these will familiarise the children with the style and format of the questions. These sections are not timed and may be repeated. It is not recommended that pupils practice ahead of a CAT4 test as this can alter the reliability of test scores.

CAT4 is a timed assessment and additional time is not permitted as this will affect the reliability of the results. CAT4 is not just about what and how it tests but how the questions are answered within a set timeframe. The timed element makes it diagnostically very powerful.

Thanks to all families in advance for your support with this testing and please re-assure pupils they need only try their best. if you have any further queries regarding the CAT4 tests in school please contact me via email at jwatson@forgevalley.sheffield.sch.uk

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Watson'.

John Watson
Assistant Head Teacher

