



PARKSIDE

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Small School ♦ Strong Values ♦ Great Experiences

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Dear Parent/Carer,

On Friday 10 January and Monday 13 January, the school will deliver a series of important external assessments to our Year 10s. All students need to sit these assessments and therefore all students **MUST** attend school on these days.

The tests are called Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT) and are widely used in English secondary schools to better understand how your child learns, but more importantly due to the absence of Key Stage 2 assessments, gives an idea of the Minimum Expected Grade a student should achieve at the end of Year 11 alongside teacher judgement. The outcomes of these tests are shared with teachers to allow them to support your child's learning and to better respond to the needs of each child.

These tests are not ones that students are able to revise for and we ask that your child simply tries their best; we do not want them to worry about these tests and we will be speaking to the year group over the next few days to reassure them. For those students whom are entitled, I wanted to let you know that access arrangements are not allowed to be used in these tests, as the CAT tests are designed to assess what students are able to do without any support from the usual access arrangement they are entitled to.

If you would like to know more about the CAT tests you can follow the link to GL Assessment below:

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

The CAT tests are externally marked and the results should be back in school within three academic weeks. We will release the results of the tests to you via Arbor, after we have moderated and analysed them. We will notify you when the results are available for you to see.

If you have any concerns about the CAT tests, please do get in touch with me at school.

Yours faithfully

Mrs L Asher
Deputy Headteacher Quality of Education

