



**HERMITAGE
ACADEMY**

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Dear Parent/Carer,

We do hope that your child is settling in well to school and enjoying their lessons. We are constantly assessing how they are coping and adapting our approaches to teaching as needed.

As you know, we have no formal assessment data from primary school and so we are going to use a series of online test, known as 'CATs' (Cognitive Ability Tests). These are online tests and adapt to each child's individual skills. These tests will provide us with useful information and help us to refine the curriculum further to meet their learning needs. This is especially important given the lock down that our Year 7's experienced.

Please be assured that the assessments are absolutely nothing to worry about, and please emphasise to your child that they cannot prepare or revise for them in any way. The assessments focus on tasks involving shapes, patterns, words, numbers and transforming visual images. The assessments look at what each child is potentially capable of, rather than testing knowledge that they already have. It is an online adaptive test so the questions will change according to how each student is managing.

We are hoping to run these tests on Thursday 24 September for the students that are in school. We will arrange for students who are self-isolating or ill to take the tests when they return to school. They will take place in a computer room. If students have their own set of headphones with a jack plug then they may wish to use these rather than school ones. We will provide sanitized headphones for students that do not have their own or do not wish to bring them into school.

If a child misses the test for any reason, it will be easy for them to take it at a different time, so please do not worry.

Thank you for your ongoing support