



JBA/CMA

5 September 2025

Dear Parent or Carer,

## **CAT4 Tests – Cognitive Abilities Test**

We would like to inform you that your child will soon be sitting the CAT4 test in school. The CAT4 (Cognitive Abilities Test, Fourth Edition) is used in many schools across the UK to provide valuable information to teachers. Alongside other data, such as Key Stage 2 results, CAT4 helps inform discussion about how your child learns best and how we can support them in reaching their full potential.

CAT4 assess how well students can think through tasks and solve problems using a variety of question types. The test is divided into four key areas:

- **Verbal Reasoning** – understanding and reasoning with words
- **Quantitative Reasoning** – working with numbers and numerical patterns
- **Non-verbal Reasoning** – identifying patterns and relationships in shapes and figures
- **Spatial Ability** – imagining and manipulating shapes in space

These abilities are important because they influence learning and achievement, yet some – like spatial ability – can be difficult to observe in the classroom. CAT4 helps ensure that teachers have a fuller picture of your child's strengths and areas for development.

It's important to note that CAT4 is not a test of what your child has learned in school. It does not require any prior knowledge, and students cannot revise or prepare for it. This makes it a fair assessment, as all students being from the same starting point.

After the test is complete, your child will be given an individual report of their results to take home. As a parent or carer, you will also receive a copy of your child's results. This will help you understand the process and how you can support your child's learning at home.

The results of the CAT4 test will help teachers:

- Set appropriate learning targets
- Monitor your child's progress over time
- Decide on the right pace of learning
- Identify whether your child may benefit from additional support or greater challenge in specific areas of the curriculum

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Bates

Principal

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