



BENTON PARK SCHOOL

'Creating a climate for great learning, success and opportunity'

20 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a pleasure to welcome your child into school and we hope they have enjoyed their first two weeks with us settling into routines and making new friends. As part of our continued induction process, enabling us to support your child with their individual needs, we will be asking all Year 7 students to complete a series of CAT4 tests over the coming weeks, during their Computer Science lessons. These tests are commonly used across many schools as they are a quick, reliable way of helping students and their teachers understand how they learn and what their academic potential might be.

The results from the tests will help teachers decide about the pace of learning that is right for your child and the appropriate levels of challenge and support which will enable your child to achieve their full potential. We can also use the results to set accurate individualised targets for GCSE outcomes. The tasks students are asked to complete during the tests 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). These tests are done online and all aspects of the CAT4 tests will be discussed with your child by their Computer Science teacher prior to their first test.

We understand that some students may be anxious at the prospect of such tests and would like to reassure you that there is no need for them to be concerned. We are constantly learning about your child and their strengths, these tests will simply add to that picture and help us to develop our understanding of how your child learns. It is also important to note that the nature of these tests means that no preparation or revision is required.

If you have any questions about the CAT4 tests, please do not hesitate to contact Keith Briggs on keith.briggs@bentonpark.net

Yours sincerely,

Keith Briggs
Deputy Headteacher

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