



TANFIELD
SCHOOL

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15th September 2021

Year 7 CATS Tests

Dear Parent,

This year has been unusual in many ways, one of which is that your child did not have the opportunity to participate in the end of year 6 SATS exams. The primary school teachers did a very good job of providing us with information about each child's strengths and areas to improve, but without being able to compare this information with the performance of students nationally, this leaves us at a disadvantage compared to previous years.

For this reason, like many schools across the country, we have decided to enter every year 7 student to do CATS tests which will take place in school on Wednesday 22nd September. These are computer based tests which, unlike the SATS exams, give each student the opportunity to demonstrate their ability across a wide range of learning skills. The following link gives information about these tests:

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

Your child does not need to prepare in any way and they should come to school as normal. There is no need to worry about these tests and the overwhelming majority of students who participate in them describe them as fun and challenging.

Unlike formal SATS exams, there are no practice tests and no requirement for extra time to be assigned to any student.

We will share the results of these tests with you and these will give a picture of your child's performance compared to the national performance.

Alongside other information, we will use these results to help us ensure that your child's progress throughout school can be tracked against students of the same ability nationally and this will help us ensure your child is working at a level which will meet or exceed this level.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Jeff Allan
Assistant Headteacher

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