



The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

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2 September 2020

Dear Parent

Further to my letter in July, I am writing to give you some more information regarding the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4) that all year 7 students will complete. During their first week, year 7 students will participate in three short assessments. The assessments are completed on a computer; where possible students should bring their own set of headphones in to school over the coming week.

Here is a recap of some key information regarding the CAT4 assessments: -

CAT4 assesses a student's ability to think across four different reasoning batteries:

Verbal reasoning – thinking with words

Quantitative reasoning – thinking with number

Non-Verbal reasoning – thinking with shapes

Spatial reasoning – thinking with shapes and space

I would like to stress that this is an assessment of ability and not attainment, so no pre-learning or preparation is necessary. Your child should not feel worried about taking CAT4 as prior knowledge is not required to complete it. The results will be used together with our internal assessment practices, to inform teachers about the strengths and development areas of each student.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Thawley

Deputy Headteacher

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