

Dear Parent / Carer,

Next week, we will be holding some Cognitive ability tests for Year 7 students, during registration and periods 1 and 2. Students in K band will take their assessment on Tuesday 22nd and T band students will take theirs on Thursday 24th.

This is something that many secondary schools do - and we have done this in one form or another for a number of years.

Details of the test are on the attached document, should you wish to know a little more about what they are and why we use them.

I want to highlight that they are just one tool we use to understand the profile of our students – so as with any single assessment taken on a particular day, their results are always balanced by other assessments [such as KS2 results], as well as our own professional judgements and ongoing classroom assessments. Although the tests are supervised by staff, we do not provide additional support to students to complete the test. This is so we can use the results as a factor in determining whether students need further support in the future. There is no preparation that can be, or is expected to be done for these assessments, but we do ask that students bring in:

- a pen and some rough paper - for any working out that is needed, and
- their reading book.

The individual tests are completed online and are timed, so there may be a chance for some quiet reading if a student finishes early.

The assessments contain clear instructions on screen, which are also narrated, so students may bring in headphones – the school computers accept any standard headphone jack – if they wish. However, these are by no means compulsory or indeed essential for the assessment. We have a limited number available to borrow if needed.

If at some point after the tests you would like to know what your child's results are, please email the school on admin@kts.school and we will respond with the results and the background to what they mean.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns or queries, please let me know.

Yours faithfully,

Jonathan Milne

Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum, assessment and reporting