

8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Re – Year 7 CATS Tests**

It has been fantastic to see our new Year 7 students start the year with such a positive attitude and really settle into working hard in lessons. I am sure you agree that they look incredibly smart in their new uniform, and they are wearing it with pride. It has been amazing to see so many of our students sharing their holiday homework with us and it has been brilliant to see how much hard work and care has been taken. We are looking forward to seeing how smart the students look for **their photographs being taken by Tempest Photography 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

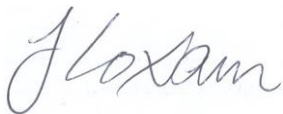
During the **week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Year 7 students will complete a set of assessments known as CATS Tests.** These tests focus on skills such as verbal reasoning and spatial awareness and therefore require no prior revision or preparation. The tests provide us with more information about students to inform planning and adapt learning for each student.

The tests will consist of **3 sessions which last one hour, the students will have a rest between each test and their breaks and lunchtimes will not be affected.** They will take place in the Sports Hall in exam conditions, **students will receive a sticker in their planner with the dates and times of the sessions, their candidate number and their seat number.** For the tests the students will need 2 pencils, a rubber and their planner. They must also bring in their equipment for the rest of the lessons that they have that day.

This experience will give students a real taste of the expectations in exams and what it is like to sit in an exam venue this will begin to prepare them for future examinations. **Please pass onto the students that this is not something that they need to be worried about instead please support us in explaining that being resilient and being confident in their own abilities will best prepare them for these tests.**

Please note that the results of these tests will remain in school for reference. I hope that Year 7 continue their excellent start to the year.

Yours Faithfully



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