



THE GRANGE SCHOOL

Mr V Murray – Headteacher

September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Reading & CATS tests for Year 7

I am writing to let you know that during this term, your child will be doing some initial testing at school to help to inform us and ensure we are putting in the right support where needed.

What are they?

There are two different tests this term: reading test and cognitive ability tests (CATs). They will be conducted in an IT room with your child's teacher. The reading test gives us a reading age which helps inform interventions as well as the information we receive from Year 6 SATs.

CATs (Cognitive Ability Tests) are made up of a series of short tests, which assess a student's reasoning (thinking) abilities in key areas.

What does my child need to do to prepare?

No preparation is necessary; your child should not worry as no pre-learning, or knowledge is needed to complete the tests. The CATs results will help us to understand a student's specific skill areas and may help to highlight where particular support is needed. Cognitive ability is not curriculum related, and therefore the results will not be significantly influenced by a student's previous schooling or their subject knowledge.

When are they?

Reading Tests:

- **Y7 DISC forms will complete the reading test on Monday 21st September**
- **Y7 OVER forms will complete the reading test on Tuesday 22nd September**

Cognitive Ability Tests:

- **Y7 DISC forms will complete the CATs test on Tuesday 22nd September**
- **Y7 OVER forms will complete the CATs test on Monday 21st September**

How do we run them?

The tests will take place within your child's normal lessons in a computer room. They will be escorted there by their teachers and there will be a full explanation about what they need to do, and an example given to ensure they understand what to do.

My child had additional support or additional time for their Year 6 SATs. Will this be provided?

There will be a number of adults who will provide support for students who may have questions and guide students, although they will not be able to answer for them. For these specific tests, the school are asked not to provide additional time.

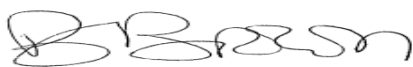
Why do we do the tests?

The information has many uses and will help us as a school to plan appropriately and set appropriate targets and ensure we understand more about each student.

The most important message for both you and your child is that this is not something to worry about and also not something that they need to have prepared for. They need to ensure they have their correct equipment in school and a positive Grange School WE CAN attitude.

If you have any questions regarding these assessments, please do email me at bbrown@grange.bucks.sch.uk

Yours faithfully



Miss B Brown
Deputy Headteacher