

Dear Parent/Carer,

At Heron Hall Academy we believe in providing each and every student with the opportunity to realise their full potential and achieve at the highest level. To gain a better understanding of the learning needs of our students, we are going to be administering a series of short cognitive ability assessments with all students in Year 9 and 10. It is a similar assessment your child would have done if he/she was at Heron Hall at the start of Year 7. We will then use the results from the assessment to improve the support we provide your child in their learning, and to determine whether further intervention is needed.

The Cognitive Abilities Test (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 faithfully,

Mr Persand
Assistant Headteacher