

11 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I hope your child has made a settled start to their time here at Shuttleworth; it has been pleasing to see them working hard in their lessons this week. Your child has been placed in a mixed ability form and is being taught all of their lessons in that class. However, it is important that we have as much information as possible about students in order to correctly support their potential and needs. Therefore, your child will sit some tests with us, starting next week, called Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs).

CATs are tests that assess general intelligence and are designed to assess a child's ability in three different areas:

- verbal (thinking with words)
- quantitative (thinking with numbers)
- non-verbal (thinking with shapes and space)

As such, your child cannot prepare or study for the tests as they assess thinking skills - please encourage your child not to worry about them and just to do their best!

Each of the three CATs takes 45 minutes to complete and the tests are performed on-line. Therefore your child will be tested in their computing lessons, sitting one or two tests per lesson over the next two-three weeks; these will start the week beginning Monday 14th September.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Karen Lightfoot
Associate Deputy Headteacher