

GCH / MOW / GHA

16 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Year 7 CATS4 Assessments 2024**  
**Dates: Monday 23 September – Friday 27 September 2024**

As the Campus Lead of our Mill Road site, I wanted to share with you how impressed we are with the fantastic manner in which Year 7 have commenced their studies at Plume Academy. They have shown an excellent attitude and great enthusiasm, along with a friendly positivity, which is consistently observed throughout the school day. It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome them into the academy and we are delighted to have seen them settle in so quickly. They are very much a credit to you as parents/carers and we very much appreciate your positive communications and support thus far.

I am also writing to clarify that in the first half-term for all Year 7 students, we routinely carry out benchmarking assessments called CATS4 (Cognitive Abilities Test, Fourth Edition). The CAT4 assessments will be conducted from **Monday 23rd to Friday 27th September**. Over the course of the week, your child will complete three papers, each lasting no more than 45 minutes.

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4) is an assessment of developed abilities in areas known to make a difference to learning and achievement – namely verbal, non-verbal, quantitative and spatial reasoning and is designed to provide valuable insights into your child's abilities and academic potential. It is important to note that these assessments do not require any revision as they are not content-based tests. Therefore, we would like to advise at this early stage in the academic year students do not have any preparatory work to complete for these assessments.

We will use the ensuing results, along with teacher assessments that are completed as part of our curriculum model, to ensure that we have a clear academic profile for your child. I will also explain these assessments to your child during assembly time, offering all the details of how they will be registered and brought down to the gym hall. Please be reassured that staff will be present to guide and support the students through the whole process and we will emphasise that there is no need to revise or prepare for these assessments in any way.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the CAT4 assessments, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's form tutor. Thank you for your continued support and ongoing collaboration.

Yours faithfully,



**Mr Matt Owen**

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