



# Whitstable Junior School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

## Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT)

The children in class 5L will take their CAT assessments week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> April. These will be completed in the computing suite during the week, and require no additional preparation for the children, or for you at home, and there are no special arrangements for these tests. It is common practice for children to sit these tests in Year 5.

### What are CAT Tests?

CATs assess an individual's ability to reason and manipulate different types of symbols. These symbols are represented through words, quantities and special, geometric or figural patterns. The children are given four tests: Verbal Reasoning, Non-verbal Reasoning, Quantitative and Spatial Ability. These are similar to the types of tests in the Kent Test, however, in the Kent Test the children sit an English (which includes spelling, punctuation, grammar and comprehension), Maths, Reasoning, and a separate written test.

Your child will be given an SAS (Standardised Assessment Score) for each test, which can be compared to their potential Kent Test Score. CAT scores of 110 or above are considered above average with scores above 128 very high. Generally speaking, CAT scores below 110 would suggest that a child is unlikely to achieve selective scores in the Kent Test, although this is not always the case and individual circumstances should be taken into account. Often the scores the children achieve in CAT assessments come out as slightly higher than the Kent test scores.

Once the children have taken the tests you will be informed of their scores via a letter that will be sent home via your child and emailed. If you would like to talk to your child's class teacher about their Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT scores) and the Kent Test, you will have an opportunity to do this at the parent's evenings in June (either Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June or Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June).

Applications for the Kent Test September 2024 open on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 and close on Monday 1st July 2024.

We will share further information about the Kent Test process and how to apply once we have received the updated information from the Local Authority.

Kind Regards

Mrs Roy  
Assistant Headteacher

