



ALL SAINTS SCHOOL  
School Road, Lessingham, Norwich, Norfolk  
NR12 0DJ  
01692 582083

[www.allsaintslessingham.co.uk](http://www.allsaintslessingham.co.uk)

E-mail: [office@allsaintslessingham.co.uk](mailto:office@allsaintslessingham.co.uk)

## **ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL**

Directors: Mrs R Smith and Mrs J Gardiner  
Headteacher: Ms S Dangerfield



2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **CATs Results**

Congratulations to Year 7 on their start to this academic year at All Saints. I would like to pass on my best wishes and many successes, which I am sure they will achieve through their hard work.

Following the recent issue of their reports, I am writing with a little more information regarding Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs), which you may be aware our new students and students starting Year 7 take. These assessments are designed to provide information about a student's ability to reason and manipulate different types of material.

The assessments focus on four key areas designed to provide additional information, which can be used to support your child's learning. These areas are:

- Verbal reasoning – measures the ability of students to use words to solve problems, which is an important aspect for all areas of the school curriculum.
- Quantitative reasoning – measures the ability of students to use numbers, identify relationships and use basic arithmetical knowledge.
- Non-verbal reasoning – measures the ability of a student to think critically and use logic to solve problems, which is particularly important in subjects which present students with data in this way e.g. maths, science and geography.
- Spatial reasoning – measures the ability of students to retain precise images of shapes and objects and manipulate them.

The results from the CATs are compared against national data and can be used to identify areas of strength for students or areas requiring development. Using the comparison, CATs estimate a possible GCSE result based on results obtained by previous students with similar scores for the different areas of reasoning. These CATs GCSE predictions are and will be included in students reports from Year 7 onwards.

CATs results have many uses but primarily, along with your child's performance in key pieces of work or internal assessments within each subject, can help your child and their teachers to plan appropriately and set targets for different Key Stages including GCSE.

We believe that with the right amount of hard work and commitment from your child, and the support from their teachers and yourselves, they will be able to make good progress in their studies.

In terms of supporting your child at home, the following strategies have been identified as effective ways to help students develop core knowledge.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading widely</li><li>• Practising spelling</li><li>• Word games e.g. Scrabble, Boggle, hangman, word searches, and crosswords</li><li>• Using synonyms (words which have the same meaning) and antonyms (words which have the opposite meaning)</li><li>• Times tables</li><li>• Drawing shapes and then the mirror image of the shape</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sudoku</li><li>• Spot the difference puzzles</li><li>• Trips to increase cultural experiences and improve general knowledge e.g. museums, shows, and exhibits</li><li>• Following written instructions</li><li>• Solving anagrams</li><li>• Practising addition and subtraction</li><li>• Using Lego, Meccano and jigsaws</li></ul>
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I would like to thank you for your support and if you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact the relevant member of staff. For enquiries about subjects please contact the appropriate teacher, for any other queries please contact me directly: [tlamb@allsaintslessingham.co.uk](mailto:tlamb@allsaintslessingham.co.uk).

Alternatively, please speak to us during the upcoming parents evening.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Lamb

Science Coordinator and Assessment Lead