



St. Ninian's HIGH SCHOOL

Scoill Ard Noo Ninian

Our Ref : STE/LK/Assessments

8th September 2026

Dear Parent/ Guardian

Re: Year 7 Baseline Assessments

At St Ninian's High School, we are committed to helping every student achieve their full potential and experience success. To help us better understand the learning needs of our students, we will be administering a series of assessments with all students in Year 7 over the coming weeks. These include the **New Group Reading Test (NGRT)**, **New Group Spelling Test (NGST)**, and the **Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4)**.

How the Assessments Will Be Administered

The NGRT and NGST will take place during students' timetabled English lessons, while the CAT4 assessments will be run with students off their usual timetable over a double lesson.

All assessments are computer-based. Students will need a pair of headphones with a standard jack plug connection; Bluetooth headphones are not permitted. Headphones will be provided for students who do not have their own.

Week Beginning 14th September – NGRT and NGST Assessments

During the week commencing 14th September 2026, students will sit the New Group Reading Test (NGRT) and the New Group Spelling Test (NGST). These assessments measure a student's reading comprehension and spelling ability respectively.

The timetable for these assessments is as follows:

Tutor Group	NGRT	NGST
7A	Tuesday 15 th September – Lesson 3	Wednesday 16 th September – Lesson 4
7B	Tuesday 15 th September – Lesson 4	Thursday 17 th September – Lesson 6
7C	Monday 14 th September – Lesson 6	Thursday 17 th September – Lesson 4
7D	Monday 14 th September – Lesson 3	Thursday 17 th September – Lesson 4
7E	Tuesday 15 th September – Lesson 1	Wednesday 16 th September – Lesson 4
7F	Monday 14 th September – Lesson 1	Wednesday 16 th September – Lesson 3
7G	Monday 14 th September – Lesson 1	Thursday 17 th September – Lesson 3
7H	Monday 14 th September – Lesson 5	Tuesday 15 th September – Lesson 4
7I	Monday 14 th September – Lesson 5	Tuesday 15 th September – Lesson 1
7J	Wednesday 16 th September – Lesson 3	Thursday 17 th September – Lesson 3

These assessments help us identify any literacy support your child may require. Should any interventions or adjustments be necessary, a member of our Additional Needs team will contact you directly.

Continued...

LOWER SCHOOL (Years 7 – 9)

Heywood Avenue, Onchan

Isle of Man, IM3 3AR

+44 (0) 1624 648900

UPPER SCHOOL (Years 10 – 13)

Ballaquayle Road, Douglas

Isle of Man, IM2 5RA

+44 (0) 1624 648800

HEAD TEACHER Mr C. J. Coole

Live to Learn
Learn to Live

Week Beginning 21st September – CAT4 Cognitive Ability Assessments

In addition to NGRT and NGST, students will also take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4) in the week beginning 21st September 2026. These assessments will take place across a double lesson.

The timetable for CAT4 assessments is as follows:

Tutor Group	CAT4 Assessment Date	Lesson Time	Room
7A	Wed 23 rd September	Period 3/4	L207
7B	Wed 23 rd September	Period 3/4	L208
7C	Wed 23 rd September	Period 3/4	L211
7D	Wed 23 rd September	Period 3/4	L201
7E	Wed 23 rd September	Period 3/4	L202
7F	Thurs 24 th September	Period 3/4	L207
7G	Thurs 24 th September	Period 3/4	L208
7H	Thurs 24 th September	Period 3/4	L201
7I	Thurs 24 th September	Period 3/4	L211
7J	Thurs 24 th September	Period 3/4	L202

The CAT4 test assesses a student's reasoning ability across four batteries:

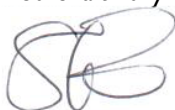
- **Verbal reasoning** – thinking with words
- **Quantitative reasoning** – thinking with numbers
- **Non-verbal reasoning** – thinking with shapes
- **Spatial reasoning** – thinking with shapes and space

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.

Once all assessments have been completed, we will send home a summary report along with guidance on how to interpret the results and what they mean for your child.

Further information on the individual tests is available on our website within the [Baseline Assessment](#) area; however, should you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Edwards
Acting Assistant Head Teacher