



26th September 2023

**CAT Testing - Year 9**

Dear Families,

I am writing to inform you of the upcoming CAT testing which all of our Year 9 pupils will complete. As our current Year 9 cohort did not sit formal Key Stage 2 SATs in their primary school due to Covid disruption, these tests will sit alongside the end-of-year examination results to inform Key Stage 4 target grades. It is hoped that this additional information will help support accurate target setting of target grades for your child’s GCSE and other Key Stage 4 courses.

The CAT is a series of pattern-based activities that require no preparation or prior revision. As such, pupils should not experience any added pressure following or need to revise. 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 provides us with an accurate analysis of potential student achievement.

The CAT’s will begin the week commencing 2nd October 2023. They will be completed on a computer during lesson time and the process for pupils should take no longer than two hours. All of the questions are multiple-choice and pupils have the ability to return and check their answers in the time available.

Thank you for your ongoing support and if you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to get in contact via the House queries email below.

St Bernadette	St Catherine Laboure	St John Fisher	St Therese
s_stbqueries@ <a href="mailto:s_stbqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk">stthomasmore.org.uk</a>	s_stclqueries@ <a href="mailto:s_stclqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk">stthomasmore.org.uk</a>	s_stjfqueries@ <a href="mailto:s_stjfqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk">stthomasmore.org.uk</a>	s_sttqueries@ <a href="mailto:s_sttqueries@stthomasmore.org.uk">stthomasmore.org.uk</a>

Yours sincerely,

Mr. M Dean  
 KS3 Progress Lead

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL,  
 CROFTDALE ROAD,  
 BLAYDON,  
 TYNE & WEAR,  
 NE21 4BQ.



0191 499 0111  
[info@stthomasmore.org.uk](mailto:info@stthomasmore.org.uk)  
[www.stthomasmore.org.uk](http://www.stthomasmore.org.uk)

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ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL,  
CROFTDALE ROAD,  
BLAYDON,  
TYNE & WEAR,  
NE21 4BQ.

☎ 0191 499 0111  
✉ [info@stthomasmore.org.uk](mailto:info@stthomasmore.org.uk)  
🌐 [www.stthomasmore.org.uk](http://www.stthomasmore.org.uk)



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