



Dartmoor  
Multi Academy  
Trust

6<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Holsworthy Community College is part  
of the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust  
family

Dear parent/carer,



This week, our year 7 students will be completing CATs assessments (Cognitive Abilities Test) and an NGRT test which is used to assess their reading age. These tests take place in the first half term every year, for all students who join secondary school.

I would like to begin by stressing 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 these tests as prior knowledge is not required to complete them. The purpose of these assessments is to assist teachers to understand individual learning styles. The results will be used together with our internal assessment practices, to inform teachers about the strengths and developmental needs of each student. The students will undertake the three CATs assessments using computers, all of which will be completed with their regular teaching group. They will be administered by their normal classroom teachers.

The assessments will test:

- Verbal reasoning – thinking with words.
- Quantitative reasoning – thinking with number.
- Non-Verbal reasoning – thinking with shapes.
- Spatial reasoning – thinking with shapes and space.

If any student is absent for one or more of these tests, we will reschedule this at a later date. These tests form a useful evidence base which will help support all our teachers and classroom-based staff to support your children and help deliver our over-arching aim that every student can progress and attain as well as possible in their time with us at Holsworthy Community College.

If you do have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

Phil Ruse  
Vice Principal

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Victoria Hill  
Holsworthy, Devon  
EX22 6JD

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**Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust**  
Wardhayes, Simmons Way  
Okehampton, England, EX20 1PU

+44 (0)1409 253430  
[www.hcc.devon.sch.uk](http://www.hcc.devon.sch.uk)

01409 259 613  
[dartmoormat.org.uk](http://dartmoormat.org.uk)