

26th September 2023

Dear parents/carers,

During the fortnight commencing 2nd October, KS3 students will be sitting their first 'NGRT' reading assessment of the year. The New Group Reading Test (NGRT), run by GL assessments, is designed to assess students' reading abilities. It provides the school with a detailed and accurate breakdown of their reading comprehension, and their strengths and weaknesses. Research suggests that students need an average reading age of 14 in order to be able to access all of their GCSEs; science and maths have some of the highest reading age requirements with certain papers needing a reading age of 16. The NGRT is therefore a useful indicator in highlighting how well-equipped students are to access this reading material.

The NGRT assessments will be completed during an English lesson. These will be timetabled in computer suites as the assessments are digital. GL have designed the tests to be adaptive: it will adapt itself as the student sits the test to suit their reading age. It is imperative that students complete this assessment in silence, independently, and to the best of their ability.

An assembly will be delivered to students iterating the importance of the assessment and the expectations during it. The test provides the school with an overview of each student's reading ability. As a result of this data, we are able to intervene with students who require support with their reading.

Your child does not need to prepare for this test, however we do of course encourage students to read on a regular basis. Suggested reading activities are made on the KS3 newsletter each term.

Yours faithfully

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