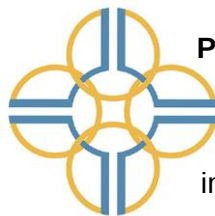


PARKHALL INTEGRATED COLLEGE

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to provide you with essential information regarding the winter internal exams.

From Friday, November 21st to Friday, November 28th (inclusive), our students will be taking part in winter internal exams.

- Students will be collected and taken to their exam room at 9.00am every morning.
- Students who have readers will be collected by the supervising teacher and taken to the ICT room.
- The canteen will be open for break.
- Meal tickets can be used at break.
- The canteen will not be open at lunchtime.
- Students should only attend for scheduled exam sessions.
- School buses will run on normal service.

During this time students will also complete PASS tests, Kirkland Rowell Survey and CAT4 standardised tests (year 10 only)

What's involved in PASS?

Students respond to a series of statements about school and learning. There are fifty questions in total, and it will take approximately twenty minutes to complete. There are no right or wrong answers. Students are encouraged to answer as truthfully as they can so that pastoral leaders can address and support any areas of need for your child. There is nothing that you must do to prepare for this. All we ask is that you answer truthfully and honestly. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers.

What is CAT4?

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT4) is a diagnostic assessment that is designed to help students and their teachers understand how they learn and what their academic potential might be. Results help teachers decide about the pace of learning that is right for a student and whether additional support or challenge is needed. Tasks involve thinking about shapes and patterns (non-verbal reasoning), words (verbal reasoning), numbers (quantitative reasoning), and some questions are answered by mentally generating and transforming visual images (spatial ability).

How are CAT4 results used?

CAT4 provides teachers with information that can form discussions about how best a student can learn and reach his or her potential in school. Teachers are provided with an individual profile of learning preference along with a range of indicators of likely future performance.

What's involved in the CAT4 test?

CAT4 is a timed assessment and is administered under formal conditions. However, each section of the assessment includes introductory information with practice examples, and these will familiarise the children with the style and format of the questions.

Our Vision: To provide a caring learning environment where
we all feel valued and respected and are empowered to reach our full potential

To support our students in their exam preparation, we recommend the use of the following revision materials:

- GCSEPod
- Sparx Maths
- Corbett Maths
- Google Classroom Study Skills:
 - KS3: bg5fb7t
 - KS4: zo2n2jt
 - KS5: 7x375ii

These resources are valuable tools to help students review and reinforce their understanding of the subjects being assessed. We encourage you to ensure that your child uses these revision materials to enhance their preparation for exams.

Self-care

We know that examinations can be a challenging part of school life for both children and young people, and their parents or carers. Students' wellbeing is our priority. Staff are here to support students through this, and below are some websites which give some useful advice:

- [Help your child beat exam stress – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- [Exam Stress | Coping Strategies | DEAL | Samaritans](#)
- [Exam Stress | How To Deal with Exam Stress | YoungMinds](#)
- [Managing stress and building resilience – tips – Mind](#)

Return to Normal Timetable

Normal classes for all students will resume on Monday, December 1st.

Your support and involvement in your child's education are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to help our students succeed in their academic journey.

Sincerely,



Examinations Officer