



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2NH, 0121 250 5400, www.bvgs.co.uk

11th September 2019

Year 7 Midyis Testing: Thursday 19th September

Dear Parents & Carers,

On Thursday 19th September we will be conducting Midyis aptitude testing with all of our Year 7 boys. The purpose of this assessment is to triangulate prior attainment data such as Key Stage 2 test results and consequently improve the accuracy of our predictive performance data for GCSE outcomes.

The Midyis system is used by many schools across the country and its particular strength is that it is an adaptive online test that adjusts to the ability levels of each individual student. Accordingly it is a very appropriate system for the baseline testing of high ability students such as Vesey boys.

We will be talking to the boys before the test to explain how it works and to answer any questions, but I wanted to write to you to let you know a few key facts.

Firstly, this is a baseline test that will be used to predict outcomes at GCSE and accordingly to set appropriate targets tailored to each individual. We will not use the results for any other purpose (such as setting or choosing options). We will not be releasing individual scores, but we will use the results to help to set suitable targets for each of the boys in each of their subjects – thus you will see the outcomes every time we release a new round of report data in Key Stage 4.

Secondly, this test cannot be prepared for in any way and no revision or tutoring is required. In fact the more successful your son is when answering questions, the more difficult subsequent questions become. Accordingly everyone should expect to struggle with some of the questions and indeed get some wrong. The key message is that if the questions are getting really tough then you are doing well!

Finally, because of the adaptive nature of the tests, each student will be answering different questions and no test will be the same. We will be running the assessments in groups throughout the day, and although no specific advantage can be gained from students discussing specific questions we would still like to discourage students from talking to each other about the tests until the following day.

If you have any queries about this process then please get in touch by emailing me on r.bowen@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk

Many thanks,

Russell Bowen
Deputy Headteacher

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