



September 16th 2018

Academic Update: UAE NATIONAL AGENDA PARAMETERS & INTERNATIONAL TESTING

CAT 4 Digital Cognitive Abilities Test Elementary and Middle School {Targeted Grades 3,4,6,8}.

MAP Measures of Academic Progress Elementary, Middle & High School {Targeted Grades 3-11}

Dear Parents,

The measure of what makes a good school is about adding value for every student regardless of their starting point and potential. As an AdvancED accredited school, we have met the criteria and standards for international schools. To build on this success we need to continuously enhance and improve our practice to ensure our students are reaching their full potential.

You will be aware from last years' communication to you that international benchmark testing is mandatory and being implemented in all schools across the UAE as part of the UAE National Agenda Parameter 2021. National Agenda parameters include targets related to international assessments

The school already participates in a range of international benchmarking tests to include CAT 4 AND MAP as part of the UAE initiative to raise educational standards in schools.

 **CAT 4 Testing**

In October we will be administering CAT 4 Cognitive Abilities Test to Grades 3,4{new students},6,8. This test is used to establish a baseline and to project expected grades in students' work. This is a new requirement for all schools in the UAE as part of the National Agenda parameters. This test is an assessment of developed ability and likely academic potential.

It highlights strengths and weaknesses across four types of reasoning as follows:

Verbal Reasoning; Thinking with words

Quantitative Reasoning: Thinking with numbers

Non -Verbal reasoning: Thinking with shapes

Spatial Reasoning: Thinking with shapes and space.

There is no preparation required for these tests. However, it is very important that your son/daughter takes these tests seriously and try their best.

All CAT 4 exams will be undertaken during the week of October 14th -18th 2018. Absent students will be required to undertake the tests on their return to school.




MAP {Measures of Academic Progress} NWEA MAP

These online tests take place every term. It is now a requirement for targeted grades across the phases {3-11}.

In anticipation of this test being a requirement, the school carried out a pilot study in 2016_2017 and 53% of our students participated. Last Academic Year the test was mandatory and all students from Grades 3-11 participated.

The students enjoyed the opportunity to see their skill levels compared to students internationally and plan targets for any identified gaps. This year it is a requirement for targeted grades to take the test. Given that the test is a combination of aptitude and achievement, the type of skills being tested won't require revision and or preparation as the teachers will incorporate these elements in their regular teaching.

Students will undertake three types of on-line assessment in MAP:

-  MAP-Reading to include Word Recognition, Structure, Vocabulary and Reading Informational Texts. Language Usage to include Craft Structure and Evaluation, Grammar and Usage and Writing Conventions.
-  MAP: Mathematics to include Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, Problem Solving, Reasoning and Proofs. End of course Mathematics Test: Algebra1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Integrated Mathematics 1, 2 and 3.
-  MAP for Science: life, earth and space sciences.

The testing will be as follows:

Week 4: October 21st to Nov 8th 2018.

Guide for parents on MAP Testing is on the school website.

Should you have any questions or wish to clarify any points regarding the test, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we will be happy to meet with you.

Mrs. A. M. Shaw

Principal

16 سبتمبر 2018

السادة أولياء امور صفوف 3-11 الكرام

اختبار الكات 4 {المراحل 3،4،6،8}

في شهر أكتوبر، سنقوم بإجراء اختبار القدرات المعرفية CAT 4 للصفوف 3،6،8 (جميع الطلاب) والصف الرابع (الطلاب الجدد فقط)

هذا الاختبار مطلوب من جميع المدارس في دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة كجزء من معايير الأجنحة الوطنية. ويقوم على تقييم قدرات الطلاب والإمكانات الأكاديمية. ويسلط الضوء على نقاط القوة والضعف في أربعة أنواع من التفكير على النحو التالي:

الاستدلال اللفظي؛ التفكير مع الكلمات

التفكير الكمي: التفكير مع الأرقام

الاستدلال غير اللفظي: التفكير بالأشكال

التفكير المكاني: التفكير مع الأشكال والمكان

سيجرى اختبار كات 4 من 14-18 أكتوبر، 2018. ومن تغيب عن الاختبار يتطلب منه إجراءها فور عودته للمدرسة.

اختبار ماب:

هو اختبار أولي لمراحل (الصف الثالث وحتى الصف الحادي عشر) ويجرى كل فصل.

تم إجراء دراسة تجريبية عام 2016_2017 وقد شارك فيها 53% من طلابنا، وفي العام الماضي 2017_2018 كان الاختبار إلزاميا شارك فيها جميع الطلاب بنسبة 100%. وتسنى لهم الفرصة لمعرفة مستوياتهم ومهاراتهم مقارنة بالطلاب الآخرين على المستوى الدولي

واختبار الماب مطلوب هذا العام أيضا من طلابنا الاعزاء. وبالنظر إلى أن الاختبار هو مزيج من الكفاءة والإنجاز ، فإن نوع المهارات التي يتم اختبارها لن يتطلب المراجعة أو الإعداد لأن المعلمات ستدمجن هذه العناصر ضمن الحصص الدراسية.

سيقوم الطلاب بثلاثة اختبارات:

اختبار القراءة: تشمل التعرف على مفردات الكلمات والنصوص قواعد اللغة .

اختبار الرياضيات: يشمل الهندسة والجبر وحل المشكلات.

اختبار العلوم: تشمل الحياة والأرض والفضاء.

وسيكون جدول الاختبار على النحو التالي:

الاسبوع الرابع: 21 أكتوبر – 8 نوفمبر، 2018

يوجد دليل للآباء حول اختبار MAP على موقع المدرسة.