



# Icknield Community College

Headteacher: Mr M Hunter, BA(Hons), MSc, NPQH

Icknield Community College, Love Lane  
Watlington, Oxfordshire, OX49 5RB.

T: 01491 612691  
F: 01491 612951  
E: office.4082@ocnmail.net  
[www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk)

September 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you that your child will be sitting their Cognitive Abilities Tests (CATs). These tests will take place in the Sports Hall on Monday and Tuesday next week.

Your child should bring the following equipment for the test:

- a sharpened pencil (HB pencil)
- a pencil sharpener
- a rubber

The Cognitive Abilities Test assesses an individual's ability to reason with and manipulate different types of symbols. The main types of symbols are:

1. Symbols representing words (language)
2. Symbols representing quantities (numeracy)
3. Symbols representing spatial, geometric or figural patterns

Your child does not need to do any preparation in advance of this test. Please join me in reassuring your child that he/she should not worry at all about the CAT but should simply follow carefully all instructions during the test itself.

The results of the CAT will give staff at Icknield Community College a profile showing the level and pattern of each student's abilities. This information will be used by staff, including subject teachers, to:

- select the most relevant teaching methods and curriculum materials
- set the pace of learning as appropriate to the needs of the individual
- organise groups and group work effectively

You will be informed about your child's CAT performance when the results are received.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Hunter  
Headteacher

