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11/11/2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you of our plans to conduct MidYIS standardised assessments once again this session with the S2 year group. Whilst we were able to assess the majority of the cohort prior to school closures earlier this year, we wish to have more robust and potentially reliable data at our disposal in order to support S2 course choice. Prior to Christmas, it is my intention to share your young person's assessment data with you and provide you with information to support your understanding and ability to guide your young person through the course choice process in early 2021.

### **What is it?**

MidYIS is a computer-adaptive assessment for learners aged 11-14, that provides information which support us in continuing to identify a learner's strengths within their learning, their areas for development as well as predicting how individuals are likely to perform at National 3, 4 or 5 (our National Qualifications) come S4.

As the assessment is adaptive, each learner sees a unique assessment and is challenged at a level that is suitable for them, making it enjoyable, engaging and efficient.

### **How it works?**

MidYIS assesses four key areas which research shows are linked to later academic outcomes:

- Vocabulary – word fluency and understanding;
- Mathematics – logical thinking, manipulating numbers and numerical concepts;
- Non-Verbal Ability – recognising shapes, matching patterns, applying spatial awareness and visual intuition;
- Skills – such as proofreading, perceptual speed and accuracy.



**Please note: we are asking that each pupil complete just one assessment which assesses all of the above and which lasts approximately 50 minutes. Those requiring an assessment arrangement in order to overcome any barriers to engaging fully with the assessment will receive appropriate support.**

### **When and Where?**

Learners will complete their assessment during their Information Technology periods week beginning 16.11.2020.

### **Why?**

As stated earlier in this letter, how we use the data we gather is vital in continuing to support our young people within their learning. We will share the information gathered with staff as well as with parents/carers and pupils. We wish to have more robust and potentially reliable data at our disposal in order to support S2 course choice. Prior to Christmas, it is my intention to share your young person's assessment data with you and provide you with information to support your understanding and ability to guide your young person through the course choice process in early 2021. Moving forward into S3 targets can be set or supports put in place as a result of the gathering of such data.

In the meantime, should you have any questions or concerns in relation to the MidYIS assessments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Stewart  
Depute Headteacher - BGE

