



Sunday 18 February 2018

### **MidYIS / YELLIS Assessments – Parent Information Evening**

Dear Parents

As your child develops and moves up through the Secondary School, teachers regularly monitor their strengths, progress and areas for improvement to ensure that they learn as effectively as possible. This monitoring can take many forms, including teacher observation, marking class work and home learning as well as a wide variety of more specific assessments.

This year, we introduced standardised assessments from Durham University's Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) across the Secondary School. CEM is recognised around the world for its pioneering educational research and school monitoring. It is a trusted supplier of educational assessments delivering over 1 million tests to pupils each year across 36 nations.

If your child is in Year 7 or Year 9, he/she sat the MidYIS assessment during the Autumn Term. MidYIS stands for Middle Years Information System. If your child is in Year 10 or Year 11, he/she sat the YELLIS assessment during the Autumn Term. YELLIS stands for Year Eleven Indicator System. Following analysis within Year teams, subject teams and as a school, we are now at the stage where we would like to share your child's results with you. Please find in this envelope a double-sided document presenting the chance graphs for your child at IGCSE. Should you wish to have a copy of your child's Individual Pupil Record, please do not hesitate to contact me.

As well as providing a brief overview of what MidYIS and YELLIS assessments are below, and your child's results, we would like to invite you to **a parent information evening on Monday 19 February from 19:15 to 20:00**. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about the assessments, understand how you can interpret your child's results, and ask any questions you may have about the CEM assessments conducted at school. Please note that you can contact your child's Form Tutor at any time to discuss the results in more detail with them. Teachers will be ready to discuss subject data with you at the Parent-Teacher Meetings scheduled at the end of Term 2.

#### **How do MidYIS and YELLIS work?**

Both assessments are computer-based, adaptive and taken individually by students. These assessments are not formal tests and are not designed to compare students with each other. They take



a different approach to assessment, as they treat every child as an individual by choosing the difficulty of each question depending on previous questions' performance.

### **What does MidYIS assess?**

MidYIS assesses students in key cognitive areas which research shows are linked to later academic outcomes. The assessment comprises four separate, timed modules, always following the same order of vocabulary, mathematics, non-verbal and skills:

*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, and perceptual speed and accuracy

### **What does YELLIS assess?**

YELLIS assesses three key cognitive areas which research shows are linked to later academic outcomes, involving a combination of multiple choice and free-entry answers:

*Vocabulary* – word fluency and understanding

*Mathematics* – logical thinking, manipulating numbers and numerical concepts

*Non-verbal ability* – ability to match patterns, reflections and rotations and apply visual intuition

### **What do MidYIS and YELLIS tell us?**

MidYIS and YELLIS assessments produce chances graphs. Chances graphs offer a picture of likely future outcome, expressed as a percentage chance, in each subject, for individual students and across subjects.

If you have any questions about the information contained in this letter or your child's results, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you on Monday 19 February at 19:15.

Yours faithfully

Ms Gonzalès  
Head of Secondary