



Scoil phobail beal Acha h-Ambhnaís

BALLYHAUNIS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

David McDonagh *Principal*
Orla Macken *Deputy Principal*

November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In Ballyhaunis Community School we wish to assess our first year cohort of students to see what their needs are and how we can best help them to learn and achieve. As part of this process, we will be administering the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT) to all students.

CAT is made up of a series of short tests which assess a student's reasoning (thinking) abilities in key areas that support educational development and academic attainment. No preparation is necessary; it is important that your son/daughter does not become anxious as no pre-learning or knowledge is needed to complete the tests.

The schedule for the administration of the CAT test is during the week of the 16th of November. **We are asking that all students bring in their own headphones, as this test is going to be administered digitally.**

Also a digital test to assess reading ability will be administered as well. No student during this test will be asked to read aloud.

The cost of administering these tests is **€20 per student**. If your son or daughter is part of the book rental scheme this cost is covered. For students who are not part of the book rental scheme a bill will be sent from our way2pay system for €20 to cover the cost of the tests.

Should you have any queries in relation to these tests you can contact Ms O'Reilly at the following email address guidance@ballyhauniscs.ie or through the schools main office on 0949630235.

Thanking you for your co-operation.

Regards

Anne Marie O'Reilly

Ms O'Reilly

Guidance Counsellor

Colleen Hayes

Ms Hayes

Learning Support Dept.

Olive Lyons

Ms Lyons

Learning Support Dept.

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