

April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Secondary Selection Testing for Year 5 children moving up to secondary school in September 2021

In these times of uncertainty and anxiety, we would like to thank all our primary and secondary school colleagues for their amazing effort and commitment in maintaining education across Buckinghamshire. As we enter into the fourth week of formal School closure it is natural for many questions to be raised about what comes next during this unprecedented lockdown.

Some parents have contacted primary schools and TBGS to enquire about the Secondary Selection Testing planned for the Autumn. We are therefore writing to you to provide some reassurance, even if we cannot answer the specific questions at this time due to ongoing uncertainty.

Our primary colleagues are rightly focussed upon the curriculum, well being and support of their communities at this time. Therefore please refer to the TBGS website for official updates to any information regarding the Secondary Transfer Test (<https://www.thebucksgrammarschools.org/>).

At this time we are exploring a range of options with our colleagues at Buckinghamshire Council and GL Assessment. We are also supporting the Grammar School Heads Association (GSHA) in their discussions with the Department of Education about what adjustments might need to be made to the usual arrangements at local and national level to ensure the testing process is completed with due consideration for the current situation.

The discussions are wide-ranging and include the timing of testing, administration considerations, and how to keep children and staff safe. We do not yet have a date for when plans will be finalised due to the ever changing nature of the current advice. We will continue to put safety first, to be considerate to families and primary colleagues, as well as ensure we write to you again when we have more information.

Yours sincerely



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