**The Highcrest Academy**

**Non Verbal Reasoning Test Information and Application Procedure**

**(Please read the full policy on the website)**

1. **Why are children asked to do a test?**

The Highcrest Academy became an All Ability Academy in September 2013. This is a unique choice for parents in Buckinghamshire. To achieve a balanced intake reflecting the ability of all students who apply, we ask all applicants to take a Non Verbal Reasoning Test (NVRT). Students will then be arranged in four bands, each representing 25% of the ability range as indicated by the NVRT. Places will be offered equally to each band applying the criteria set out in the Admissions policy (Looked After Children/SEN, Siblings and then by distance from the school).

1. **Must all applicants take the test?**  
   **Yes. This is very important**. Parents and children must remember however it is not a “pass or fail” test. 25% of places will go to the most able students but equally 25% of places will go to those with the lowest scores. There will be arrangements made for those with any special needs. In very exceptional cases parents should contact the Academy.
2. **What is the test?**

The test requires minimal language skills and is culturally neutral. Children solve problems using shapes and patterns. Some example questions are given below. No equipment is needed. Although there is no “pass or fail” it is important students do their best to give a true reflection of their ability.

?

A

B

C

D

E

D

E

A

B

C

?

1. **How do I apply?**

Please download the Academy Banding Test Application from our website: <http://www.highcrestacademy.org.uk/Entry-for-Yr7-in-2020> and return to the Academy by post, deliver by hand to Reception or email to [bandingtests@highcrestacademy.org.uk](mailto:bandingtests@highcrestacademy.org.uk) for the attention of the NVR Co-ordinator. Forms must be received by at least one week before the test you wish your child to sit.

1. **What happens then?**  
   We will write to you giving the date and time of the session you have been allocated, with more details. A parent or responsible adult must bring the child to the test at least 15 minutes before the start time. The adult must wait while the test is taken (45 minutes) and then collect the child.

We will provide test results but this will not indicate if a place has been allocated.

Offers will be made via the Buckinghamshire co-ordinated process in March 2020.