Why is my child being tested?

All prospective students undertake a diagnostic test in Literacy and Numeracy prior to starting at Quakers Hill High School in order to support our Executive Staff in creating appropriate classes that support effective learning. The tests, in conjunction with our Student Profile Survey (delivered via an online survey), equip our teaching staff with a pre-emptive understanding of the unique needs of each learner and their preferred learning style(s) and empowers them to plan the best ways to support learning within their KLA, through acceleration, remediation and structured extra-curricular activities.

Traditionally students that attend our partner primary schools (Barnier, Hambledon, Quakers Hill and Quakers Hill East Primary Schools) access these papers in Term 2; students from non-partner primary schools may undertake them later in the year or in the first week of Year 7. In 2015, we are inviting interested parents to bring their son or daughter to one of two afternoon ‘Testing Sessions’ in which these vital diagnostic tests will be undertaken. The benefit to attending is that we are able to identify your son’s or daughter’s academic strengths earlier on and can begin the significant process of placing them in the most advantageous class group to meet their learning needs. We encourage students enrolled in ‘non-partner primary schools’ to attend one of these sessions, as well as aspiring GAT candidates.

What are the specifics of these testing afternoons?

| When:          | Option #1: Wednesday the 1st of April 2015 |
|               | Option #2: Tuesday the 26th of May 2015   |
| Time:         | 4:00 pm – 5:50 pm                        |
| Where:        | QHHS Library                             |
| What materials are required? | A ruler, pencil, eraser and pen           |
| Who will supervise? | Ms Lachevre (Transition Coordinator)     |
Frequently Asked Questions

Does my son or daughter have to attend in their school uniform?

No, they do not.

Do I have to stay for the duration of the exam?

No, you do not. If you choose to leave, please leave your contact details for staff, so that you can be reached in an emergency.

Can I just turn up on the day, or am I required to inform you beforehand?

We ask that you inform Ms Lachevre (Transition Coordinator) of your intention to attend the exam session, this way we can ensure that adequate resources are available for all attendees on the day. Ms Lachevre can be contacted through the school (02 9837 1533) or via email (melissa.lachevre@det.nsw.edu.au).

If my son or daughter attends, will this guarantee them a place in a GAT class?

Positions in our GAT classes are awarded based on merit, which is decided through careful consideration of a student’s performance in the diagnostic tests, their current teacher’s feedback to our Welfare Head Teacher regarding their performance throughout 2015 and their completion of the GAT Nomination Forms; which include a folio of student work samples. By completing the tests earlier, we have more time to analyse the data and with early submission of the work sample folio, we are better able to flag potential candidates for acceleration.

(GAT nomination forms can be found on the school website, under the heading “Curriculum & Activities” → “Learning Extension”.)

Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards,

Melissa Lachevre
Transition Coordinator
Ph: (02) 9837 1533
email: melissa.lachevre@det.nsw.edu.au
Please complete the following form and return to QHHS

General Details:

- Student’s Name: ____________________________
- Medical Concerns: __________________________
- Current Primary School: _____________________
- Classroom Teacher: __________________________

Parental Contact Details:

- Parent/Guardian’s Names: _____________________
- Home Phone No: _____________________________
- Work No: ______________________________________
- Mobile No: _________________________________
- Email: ________________________________________
- Emergency Contact: __________________________

Nominating a Session:

Please place a ‘1’ next to your first preference, and a ‘2’ next to your second preference.

Diagnostic Testing Optional Session #1
(Applications must be submitted by the 26th of March 2015)

Term 1 Week 10 Wednesday the 1st of April 2015 4:00 pm – 5:50 pm □

Diagnostic Testing Optional Session #2
(Applications must be submitted by the 21st of May 2015)

Term 2 Week 5 Tuesday the 26th of May 2015 4:00 pm – 5:50 pm □

End of Day Dismissal Procedures:

At the end of the Diagnostic Test, will you be collecting your son/daughter at 5:50 pm or do they have your permission to walk home?

- ❑ I will be collecting my son/daughter from QHHS at 5:50 pm.
- ❑ I give permission to my son/daughter to be dismissed from QHHS at 5:50 pm in order to walk home.

Parent/Guardian - Signature: ____________________________