

Understanding CAT4

The *Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT)* is a suite of tests that assesses a student's reasoning (thinking) abilities in key areas that support educational development and academic attainment. *CAT4* is the fourth edition of the test and comprises the following sections or batteries which assess different aspects of ability:

- **Verbal Reasoning Battery – thinking with words**
- **Quantitative (or Numerical) Reasoning Battery – thinking with numbers**
- **Non-verbal Reasoning Battery – thinking with shapes**
- **Spatial Ability Battery – thinking with shape and space**

Why use CAT4?

CAT4 is a comprehensive and objective test of the students' *developed* abilities – those that, in part, determine attainment and can be built upon and developed to improve outcomes.

CAT4 provides important information about our students, it is an objective measure of ability.

Standard Age Score (SAS)	The Standard Age Score (SAS) is the most important piece of information derived from <i>CAT4</i> . The SAS is based on the student's raw score which has been adjusted for age and placed on a scale that makes a comparison with a nationally representative sample of students of the same age across the UK. The average score is 100. The SAS is key to benchmarking and tracking progress and is the fairest way to compare the performance of different students within a year group or across year groups.
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Relationship between CAT4 scores

Description	Very Low		Below Average			Average			Above Average		Very High		
Stanine (ST)	1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
Standard Age Score (SAS)	70		80	90	100	110	120	130					
National Percentile Rank (NPR)	1	5	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	95	99