

SQUIRES AVENUE
BULWELL
NOTTINGHAM
NG6 8HG

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL: CHRIS KEEN
ACTING HEAD OF SCHOOL: MATT IRONS

T +44 (0)115 964 7640
E enquiries@bulwellacademy.org.uk
www.bulwellacademy.org.uk



**THE BULWELL
ACADEMY**
*Creative
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Dear Parent/Carer,

Reading Intervention

At The Bulwell Academy, we want every child to leave school with the skills and knowledge that they need to be successful at GCSE and beyond; therefore, we assess students reading progress every year and provide interventions where students require this.

Reading tests will be taken by years 7-9 this week. This will be taken in exam conditions in a computer room. Students will have 50 minutes to take the test and most students will complete this in 30 minutes.

We want students to try their best to ensure that we get them on the correct pathway if they require intervention. Students with overlays will be encouraged to use these on the screen and students with timeout passes can use this mid-test to help them refocus.

We use a test from GL assessment, New Group Reading Test (NGRT) and they provide the following information about these assessments:

What is NGRT?

New Group Reading Test (NGRT) is a formative assessment that is used to assess a students' level reading. Formative means that it does not count towards any final grade or result but is used to find out your child's current ability level as compared to the national average and allow for identification of students who may benefit from interventions or from being stretched further. The test can be taken again later in the school year to assess progress and see whether interventions have been successful.

The content is designed to reflect the language of today and the way that reading is taught in schools. It is a short multiple-choice test that can be used to assess reading skills of children as young as 5, and monitor progress up to the age of 16.



Tasks include sentence completion and reading comprehension, and the test should take 30-50 minutes.

How is NGRT used?

Reading skills are a key aspect of a students' ability to access the school curriculum. NGRT can quickly and accurately inform staff of a student's level of reading, and therefore provide support to those who need it, or stretch those who can be pushed for further development. It allows for more personalised interventions that are appropriate for the individual student, with the aim of raising a student's abilities in reading and, by extension, their ability to access other areas of the curriculum.

How does NGRT compare to an exam?

NGRT is a formative assessment, which means that it does not count towards any formal mark or grade. It is however taken in controlled conditions, to ensure individual responses. Students will be monitored to ensure that they are working through the questions on their own. Assistance can be given to explain how to take the test and how to use the online testing platform (if using NGRT digital), but students cannot receive help in choosing answers or having the text explained to them.

The test should take approximately 30-50 minutes to complete, depending on whether the paper or digital version is used.

Should my child revise or train for NGRT? Can I get practice tests?

We advise against any practicing or training in order to get a fair assessment of the student's reading abilities at that moment in time. There are practice questions in the assessment to get students familiar with the task they are being asked to do.

If you have any queries regarding the reading assessments, please do not hesitate to get in touch: Megan.FarrowGriffiths@bulwellacademy.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

M Farrow Griffiths

Miss M Farrow-Griffiths
Teacher of English & Director of Literacy