



WELLACRE



ofqual
NATIONAL REFERENCE TEST

January, 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: National Reference Test (NRT) 2019

I am writing to inform you that your son has been selected to take part in this year's National Reference Test (NRT). Each year, over 300 schools take part in the NRT. At each school up to 60 students are selected at random from Year 11 and will be asked to take either the English or Mathematics test.

The test will be carried out on **Tuesday 5th March, 2019** commencing at **9.00 a.m.** and will last for one hour with an extra half an hour allocated, to allow for students to be seated and have the instructions read to them by the test administrator. Students must ensure that they arrive to school on time for a prompt start to the examination. An NFER administrator will be present along with a member of school staff throughout the test. Participation will give students an opportunity this spring term to practise in exam conditions a test that is similar in style to the actual GCSE's they will be taking this summer. It is very important that all selected students take part to ensure that the data from these tests is representative of the GCSE student population across the country. After the test, students will be asked to complete a short five minute survey about their experience of the NRT and their preparation in general for their GCSE exams. Students do not have to prepare for the test and no additional work or revision is required.

Please be assured that your child's participation in the NRT will not affect his or her GCSE grades. The marking of the test will be carried out by staff at NFER and the results will be kept confidential. The results of individual students will not be provided to any of the students' current or future schools and will not be used in awarding their GCSE. In addition, the results from this test will not be used in any measures of school performance. It will not be provided to Ofsted or local authorities and no individual school or student will be identified in any report. All students that participate in the test will be automatically entered into a prize draw for a tablet.

All data collected by NFER will be held securely and they will not collect more information than is necessary to fulfil the stated purposes and we will not keep it for longer than is necessary. To see the full privacy statement please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-reference-test-your-information-and-your-privacy>.



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Principal: Miss. M. Wicks



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Ofqual regulates qualifications and examinations in England. Ofqual has asked the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to hold the NRT each year in a sample of schools and Wellacre's participation has been confirmed. The aim of the test is to provide information on changes in performance standards over time in GCSE English Language and Mathematics.

To reflect the importance of the test, and to ensure high participation rates and therefore robust data, the Government has introduced legislation that requires the participation of state schools that are selected to take part. To ensure the sample of students taking the test is as representative as possible, some schools not covered by the legislation have also been asked to participate.

We very much appreciate your son's participation in the NRT. Enclosed with this letter is an information sheet for your son to answer any possible questions he may have in advance of the NRT. However, if you or your son have any questions or concerns regarding the test, please contact us or you can contact NFER direct by email at NRTkeystage4@nfer.ac.uk

Yours sincerely,

Miss M. Wicks
Principal

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