



# OMAGH ACADEMY

# FAMILIARISATION

# AFTERNOON

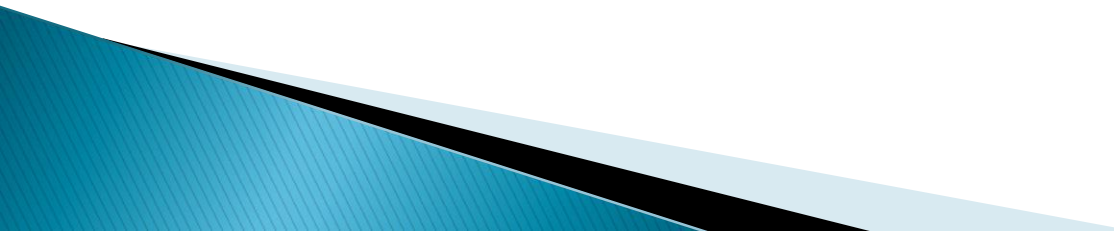
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022



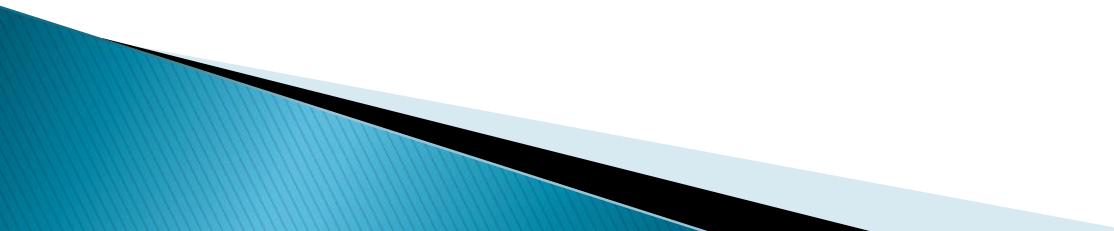
WELCOME  
TO  
OMAGH ACADEMY

# DATES OF TESTS

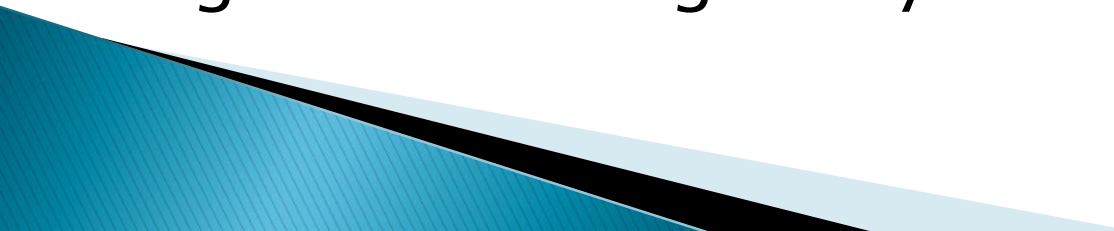
- ▶ Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November
  - ▶ Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November
  - ▶ Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December
  - ▶ At 10.00 am
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- ▶ Three Tests (Common Entrance Assessments)
  - ▶ Best two results count
  - ▶ Only need to sit two tests
  - ▶ But if sit three then the child has a chance to make up for an “off-day” (99% of pupils sit 3 tests)
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# ARRIVAL ON MORNING OF TESTS

- ▶ Plan to arrive early: between 9.30 and 9.40am
  - ▶ In time for pupils to be seated by 9.45am at latest and settled for the test
  - ▶ Each test lasts from 10.00 to 11.10am
  - ▶ Pupils who are entitled to extra time will finish at 11.25am
  - ▶ There will be no access to the school grounds for cars during the test
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# CAR PARKING ON THE MORNING OF TESTS


- ▶ Car parking will be available from 9.20am
  - ▶ Please feel free to park in the school grounds: North Car Park (Primark)
  - ▶ The main gates are locked from 10.00am until 11.10am.
  - ▶ Two-way traffic is a problem in the Academy grounds owing to layout
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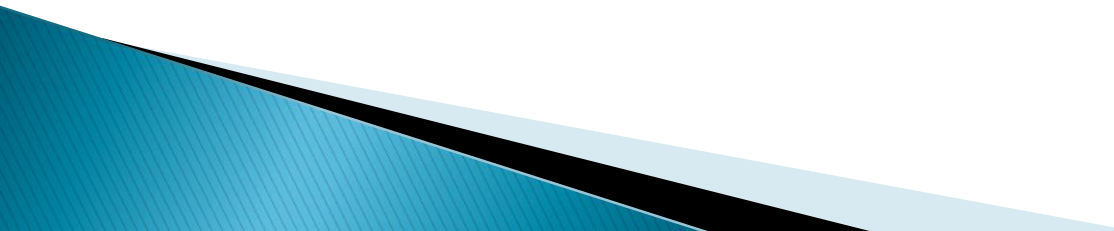
- ▶ Please drive into grounds only if wish to park in the grounds for the duration of the test.
  - ▶ Easy access to Omagh Town Centre and Dublin Road through pedestrian gates beside Primark.
  - ▶ Otherwise please park outside the grounds and escort your child to the appropriate colour coded entrance (blue/yellow).
  - ▶ Gates locked up for the day at 11.40am.
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# On Test Days

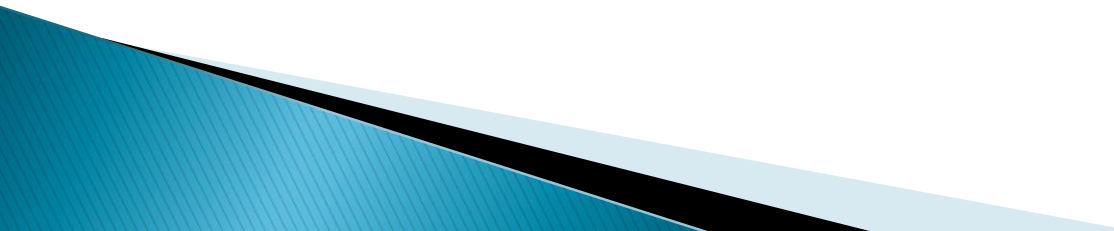
- ▶ Parents are asked to accompany children to the colour coded entrance
- ▶ And collect children again outside the colour coded entrance after the test at 11.10am (11.25am)




- ▶ Pupils wear Primary School Uniform
  - ▶ **No mobile phones, watches**, ipods etc.
  - ▶ No food, drinks, toys, mascots etc.
  - ▶ No extra time for toilet breaks/late arrival
  - ▶ Rough work – side of test paper or separate sheet (AQE rough work paper collected in)
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- ▶ Medical items permitted, e.g. inhalers – but clear with Miss Faris in advance
  - ▶ Invigilators will not be able to answer questions about test items
  - ▶ Remember Admission Card, colour coded pass, pencils, rubber (**but pencil cases are not permitted**)
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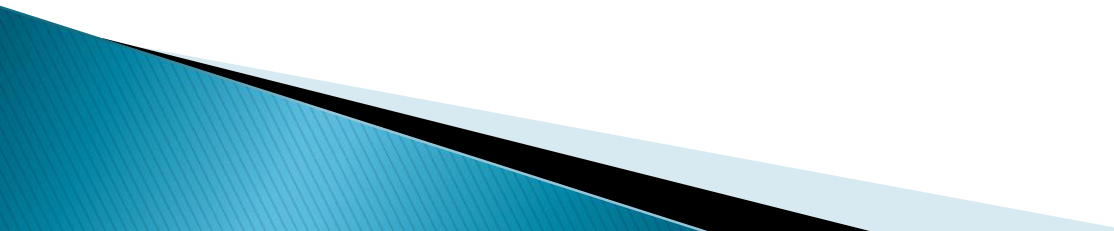
# LATE FOR TEST

- ▶ Ring ahead to school office 028 8224 2688
  - ▶ School gates will be locked for vehicles – pedestrian gate open.
  - ▶ Park outside the school grounds (limited short-term parking opposite the main gates).
  - ▶ Escort the child to the colour coded entrance.
  - ▶ The child will be able to sit the test, but no extra time is permitted by AQE.
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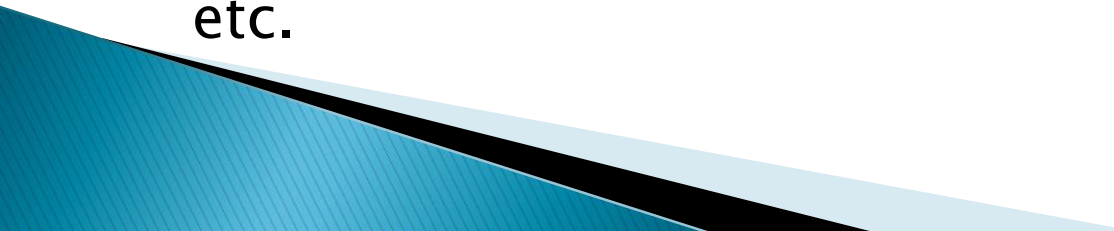
# If a pupil is ill on the day

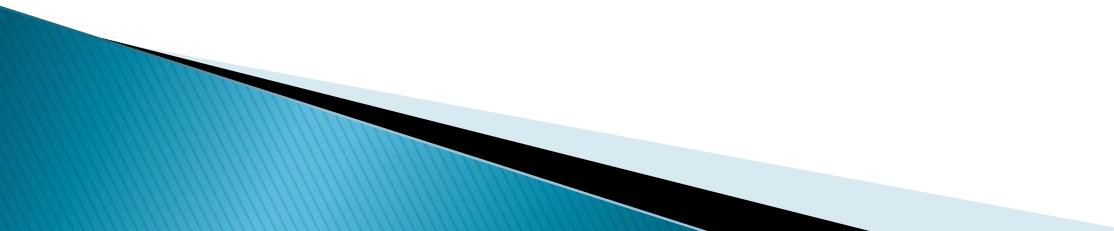
- ▶ Should not come in for the test if unwell
  - ▶ Remember 3 papers available but only 2 needed for an AQE score
  - ▶ Can apply for Special Circumstances
  - ▶ Obtain evidence (e.g. G.P. letter) at the time of the test. Keep this evidence safe. This also applies to Covid-19.
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# Advise the school in advance


- ▶ If the pupil is unable to attend
  - ▶ If the pupil is recovering from illness
  - ▶ Or the pupil has had an accident etc.
  - ▶ Access arrangements may be possible
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# This evening's schedule for pupils

- ▶ Pupils seated in their test room (a classroom)
  - ▶ With same invigilator as first test, where possible
  - ▶ Where possible, children are placed in a room with others from the same primary school
  - ▶ Pupils from primary schools with small numbers are roomed together
  - ▶ Shown location of test room, toilets, evacuation route etc.
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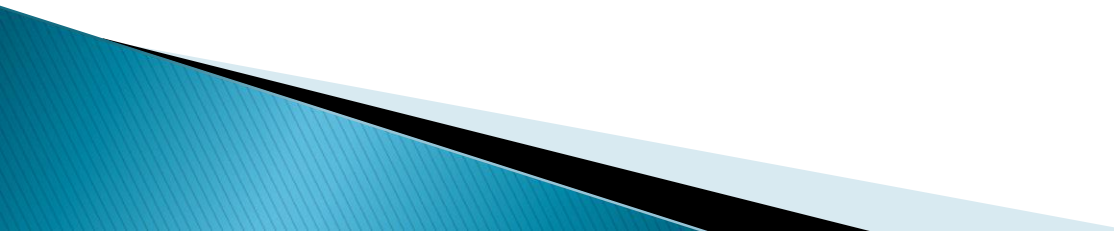
- ▶ Pupils complete the front cover of 1<sup>st</sup> test
  - ▶ The cover sheet shows the order of the questions, the marks for each page, the total marks & the number of questions
  - ▶ Taken through a list of instructions – do's and don'ts
  - ▶ Instructions to be used on the day are read out
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# Before the Test

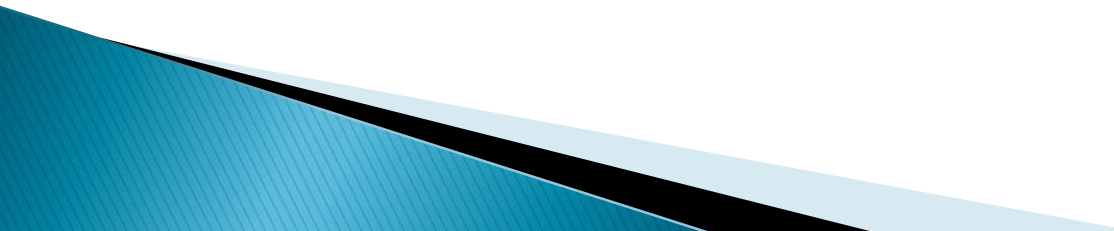
- ▶ Night before – usual routine
  - ▶ No fuss – play it down
  - ▶ Plan to arrive in good time but not too early. Much better not to rush on the morning
  - ▶ No need to worry – previous tests went very smoothly & there are 3 tests and the lowest result won't count
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# The AQE Test Score

- ▶ Whole number e.g. 92, 112 etc.
  - ▶ Age standardized
  - ▶ Median score is 100
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# Academy Admissions Criteria

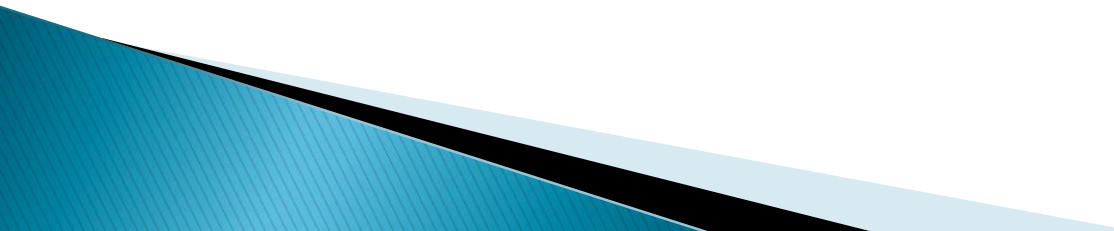
- ▶ Main criterion: rank order of AQE Test Score
  - ▶ Full criteria published by Education Authority
  - ▶ If you want your child to be considered for the Academy put the school as your 1<sup>st</sup> choice or the application may not reach us
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# Special Circumstances

- ▶ If a child's performance is adversely affected by medical or other problems, parents will be able to apply for special circumstances.
- ▶ Will need to provide evidence of the problem (N.B. a doctor's letter from the time of the tests) together with educational evidence (attach to the Transfer Form).
- ▶ And complete an SC22 form available from the school or the AQE.

Full details about special circumstances will be provided in the Education Authority documentation published later in the year.

# Finally

- ▶ AQE Results issued provisionally Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – retain the result slip as proof
  - ▶ Further information is available on the AQE Website: [www.aqe.org.uk](http://www.aqe.org.uk)
  - ▶ Past Papers are available – contact school office (Tel. 028 8224 2688 8.30am–4.30pm)
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# QUESTIONS

Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time if you have queries or would like some advice.

# THANK YOU