



**Loreto Secondary School,  
Pembroke Hill,  
Ballynagee,  
Wexford.**

**Telephone: (053) 9146162  
E-mail: [principal@loretowexford.com](mailto:principal@loretowexford.com)  
Website: [www.loretowexford.com](http://www.loretowexford.com)**

**Office hours: 8.15 a.m. to 4.15 p.m., Monday to Friday**

---

Friday, 16 November 2018

**Re: CAT Results and Percentiles**

Dear parents/guardians,

On Tuesday, 18 September last, all 1<sup>st</sup> year students sat Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs). The results of these tests are now accessible on the school website via E-portal in the 'Results' section of the student profile. I would like to take this opportunity to explain the results of these tests and what these results can tell you about your daughter's learning.

Once you select 'Results' you will see four sets of results under the heading 'First Year Testing'. The areas tested are:

1. Verbal Battery (VB)- thinking with words
2. Numerical Reasoning (NU)- thinking with numbers
3. Spatial Ability (SPATIAL)- thinking with shape and space
4. Non-verbal Reasoning (NVB)- thinking with shapes

Beside each abbreviation you will see a result. It is important to note that these results reflect your daughter's National Percentile Rank (NPR) and are not percentages (please see table below). All percentiles are based on Irish norms.

The following examples should be of help:

- NPR of 5 means that the student's score is within the lowest 5% of the national sample
- NPR of 30 means that the student's score is within the lowest 30% of the national sample
- NPR of 50 is average
- NPR of 60 sees the student's score in the top 40% of the national average
- NPR of 80 sees the student's score in the top 20% of the national sample
- NPR of 95 means that the student's score is within the top 5% of the national sample.

If your daughter scores below 10 i.e. the tenth percentile, a member of the school’s Learning Support Department will be in touch with you to offer additional assistance to your daughter. Any such assistance will involve close co-operation with her teachers and home. Where appropriate, results may also be discussed with the school’s NEPS psychologist to see if further action or support is warranted.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Learning Support and Guidance Counselling departments if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully,

Michelle Jordan,  
Learning Support Department

### 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