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**MARK RUTHERFORD  
SCHOOL**

28 November 2023

## **New Group Reading Tests – Year 9**

Dear Parents/Carers

This coming Friday (1<sup>st</sup> December) all Year 9 students will be sitting their New Group Reading Test. This will take place for one lesson during Periods 1-3 and will be facilitated within their regular timetabled lesson. The NGRT is a standardised assessment which allows us to measure the reading skills of all students at the school, comparing their result against the national average. This allows us to assess students' knowledge of phonics, comprehension, decoding, vocabulary and inference – in turn providing us with a reading age for all students. In Year 9, students will sit their New Group Reading Test three times throughout the academic year and will help to measure progress, inform predictions and help to set the correct pathway for our students.

Reading is a priority for us at Mark Rutherford School as we are aware of the level of contribution it can have to a child's success. The average reading age required to successfully access a GCSE exam paper is 15 years and seven months. Students who read for approximately twenty minutes a day are those who typically make the most progress. With our support as well as parental engagement, we are confident in our students' ability to succeed.

All students will discuss the NGRT within their tutor group to help them feel prepared. There is no 'revision' required for our Reading Test, although reading regularly will naturally help. If you have any questions, feel free to let me know.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Johnson  
Literacy Lead and Teacher of English

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 Mark Rutherford School

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