



GLANMIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Re: Maths Competency Test – Numeracy Initiative 2019

Dear 1st Year Parent/Guardian,

I'm writing to inform you of an important element of our School Self-Evaluation process, related to Numeracy. As part of the Christmas assessment, we will assess the general mathematical competencies of all first-year students. This will involve students completing a Maths Competency Test, designed by the Professional Development Service for Teachers, for specific use with first-year students. This test is intended to determine the mathematical skill set and knowledge of first-year students, to further inform the delivery and assessment of the Junior Cycle mathematics programme. Students should be familiar with all of the areas identified in the test from their primary school experience and material learned during the first term. The results of the competency test will enable us to determine those elements of the curriculum where students need additional support as well as areas of particular strength.

The outcomes of the test will be carefully analysed by the Maths department and the School Self-Evaluation team to identify areas of the curriculum requiring particular attention during first year. The first year programme will attempt to address any areas of weakness and will also seek to build upon any evident strengths. The findings will also inform a whole-school approach to further reinforce basic mathematical competencies. We intend to monitor and assess the effectiveness of our interventions, which we hope will further support students' engagement and learning.

The mark/grade that students will receive in their Christmas school report will be an aggregate mark of class tests completed during the first term. This is to ensure the mark/grade is a fair reflection of your child's effort and performance in Maths over the first term.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Lisa Casey
School Self Evaluation,
Glanmire Community College