

## Fair Banding Assessment

We will ask children who would like to come to Trinity Academy Sowerby Bridge in Year 7 to take a Fair Banding Assessment.



### What is fair banding?



It assesses a child's aptitude  
It allows us to give Year 7 places to children of all abilities



It is not a pass or fail test  
It does not require tuition or special preparation

### Why?

The assessment is designed to make sure our school is truly mixed ability. It assesses each child's ability and means they have a fair chance of securing a place at Trinity Academy Sowerby Bridge.

Banding is not a selective process. Instead, it supports the principle behind comprehensive education. It allows us to match our range of student ability to those applying for a place. We do this by accepting a proportionate spread of children of different abilities.

### How?

We will ask an external, objective agency to set and mark the assessment. We will be given each child's assessment mark, similar to an IQ score. The marks are divided into four bands and we are instructed how many children to take from each band. For example, if 40% of those applying are identified in band two, then 40% of our intake will be from this band. This ensures that the 180 places we offer reflect the ability range of our applicants.

