What is NGRT?

New Group Reading Test (NGRT) is a formative assessment that is used to assess a students' level reading. Formative means that it does not count towards any final grade or result but is used to find out your child's current ability level as compared to the national average and allow for identification of students who may benefit from interventions or from being stretched further. The test can be taken again later in the school year to assess progress and see whether interventions have been successful.

The content is designed to reflect the language of today and the way that reading is taught in schools. It is a short multiple-choice test that can be used to assess reading skills of children as young as 5, and monitor progress up to the age of 16.

Tasks include sentence completion and reading comprehension, and the test should take 30 minutes.

How is NGRT used?

Reading skills are a key aspect of a students' ability to access the school curriculum. NGRT can quickly and accurately inform staff of a student's level of reading, and therefore provide support to those who need it, or stretch those who can be pushed for further development. It allows for more personalised interventions that are appropriate for the individual student, with the aim of raising a student's abilities in reading and, by extension, their ability to access other areas of the curriculum.

How does NGRT compare to an exam?

NGRT is a formative assessment, which means that it does not count towards any formal mark or grade. It is however taken in controlled conditions, to ensure individual responses. Students will be monitored to ensure that they are working through the questions on their own. Assistance can be given to explain how to take the test and how to use the online testing platform, but students cannot receive help in choosing answers or having the text explained to them.

Should my child revise or train for NGRT? Can I get practice tests?

We advise against any practicing or training in order to get a fair assessment of the student's reading abilities at that moment in time. There are practice questions in the assessment to get students familiar with the task they are being asked to do.

Who should I contact with questions about the test?

If you have any concerns or questions about the test, please contact the school.

Sharing the results

Parents may view the outcomes of their children's NGRT online via the GO 4 Schools website. After logging in to the GO 4 Schools website, parents/carers should click on the information logo just below their child's name.

Parents/carers will then be able to view the 'Student profile' as below, which includes the 'Reading metrics' from the NGRT.

Student profile   ✕

Date of birth	
Positive behaviour points	219
Negative behaviour points	0
Reading metrics: Reading Age, Year 6	13:08
Reading metrics: Reading Competency, Year 6	High
Reading metrics: Reading SAS, Year 6	112
Reading metrics: Reading Stanine, Year 6	7

Understanding the results

Reading Age: This demonstrates a student's ability in terms of the average of others at that age. They are derived from the raw score at different age points. Reading Ages tell us about the reading ability of a single child and a single point in time. We would hope this is in-line with or above a student's current age.

SAS (Standardised Age Score): The SAS is based on the number of questions a student has answered correctly; the score is adjusted for age and placed on a scale that makes a comparison with a nationally representative sample of students of the same age across the UK. It is important to understand that scores between 89 - 111 are within the average range and that if a student scores within this range on each NGRT assessment then they are performing as expected for their age.

Reading Stanine: This places the student's score on a scale of 1 (low) to 9 (high) and offers a broad overview of their performance.

Understanding Stanines		
Stanine:	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 9
Meaning:	Below Average	Average	Above Average