



February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

At Heanor Gate Spencer Academy, we are committed to ensuring that every student develops the literacy skills they need to succeed both in school and in life beyond the classroom. Literacy is at the heart of learning: it underpins progress across all subjects, supports confident communication, and opens doors to future opportunities.

I am writing to let you know that your child will be completing the New Group Reading Test (NGRT) on **Friday 27 February** during the school day.

All students completed this assessment in Year 7. Following this initial assessment, your child moved onto a Literacy Pathway programme to support their reading. They have since graduated from this programme and returned to MFL lessons.

As Year 9 students have recently chosen their GCSE options, this is an ideal time for us to check that your child's reading continues to progress in readiness for the courses they have selected, particularly as reading demands often increase at GCSE.

The NGRT provides us with detailed information about each student's reading accuracy, comprehension, and vocabulary knowledge. We use this data directly in lessons to shape teaching, plan targeted support, and identify any interventions that may be needed to help students continue to make strong progress.

Because of this, it is essential that students complete this digital assessment to the best of their ability, as they would with all assessments in school. The test is completed online during the school day and does not require any preparation at home.

I look forward to updating you with your child's results in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Hill

CTL for MFL & Literacy Lead