

13 September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you personally to apologise for the errors in the Buckinghamshire Secondary Transfer Test yesterday.

As you will be aware, during the first sitting of the Secondary Transfer Test yesterday morning, it became apparent that two questions and a practice question in the Verbal Skills paper did not align with the corresponding answer options on the answer sheet. While for one question in the test paper and the practice question, the answers could be found on the answer sheet, the answer for the second question in the test paper could not be found on the answer sheet.

As soon as these issues were identified, every effort was made to give instructions to all test centres, informing them that the children should not attempt to answer the questions. Both we and The Buckinghamshire Grammar Schools (TBGS) were immediately informed, and an urgent investigation began straight away. We will be reporting back to TBGS as soon as our investigations are complete.

We take full responsibility for the errors, and we can only apologise to you and your children for any distress this has caused you.

Our immediate priority is to ensure all children get a fair result. We met with TBGS and Buckinghamshire County Council this morning and we are in full discussion to finalise our plans as urgently as possible, giving this matter our utmost attention. We will also be engaging with the individual Buckinghamshire grammar and primary school headteachers. We will be in further contact with you on Friday 20 September with further information.

I appreciate that this is a difficult time for you and your children, and I once again sincerely apologise for any anxiety this may have caused you. If you would like to contact us regarding this situation, please email us at bucks@gl-assessment.co.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Alastair Durno
Head of Admissions Testing, GL Assessment

