



Coláiste Bríde

Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

DAT (Differential Aptitude Tests) Results

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to inform you the results of your daughter's/ward's DATs (Differential Aptitude Tests) are now available. Parents/Guardians can access test results by logging into **VShare**, using the **link** supplied.

DATs results have been stated in general terms as follows.

In each of the **8* individual DATs** tests, a student will be awarded one of the following grades:

Very High Score or

Strength or

Fair.

(*assuming all 8 tests were completed)

The purpose of the DATs is threefold:

- To give students the **experience** of doing a different type of test. In the future many of them will be asked to do aptitude tests not unlike the DATs as part of selection procedures for different job areas. It is helpful to have had previous experience of such tests.
- To help students see the *relationship* between their test results and certain **subject areas at Senior Level**. Students should take their areas of greatest strength into account when choosing Leaving Certificate subjects for Senior Cycle.

- To stimulate students to begin to relate their abilities to possible **career areas** in the future.

It should be noted that aptitude tests like the DATs are useful objective indicators of student's potential. They do not guarantee students will be successful without the usual back-ups of hard work and personal motivation.

It is usual for students to have **varied results** over the eight tests. They are likely to do well in some and less well in others, which reflects varying abilities.

The results are intended as an **aid** to students and their parents in making decisions regarding the Senior Cycle. Students should use their DAT results in **conjunction with school tests and teachers' advice** in deciding which **Senior Cycle subjects** will most suit them.

Please read the DAT report book carefully and discuss it with your daughter. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Aisling Mc Donald
(**Guidance Counsellor**)

Principal: Ms. K. O'Sullivan

Web: www.colaistebride.ie

Deputy Principal: Ms. R. McConville

Email: office@colaistebride.ie

Deputy Principal: Mr. N. Moynihan

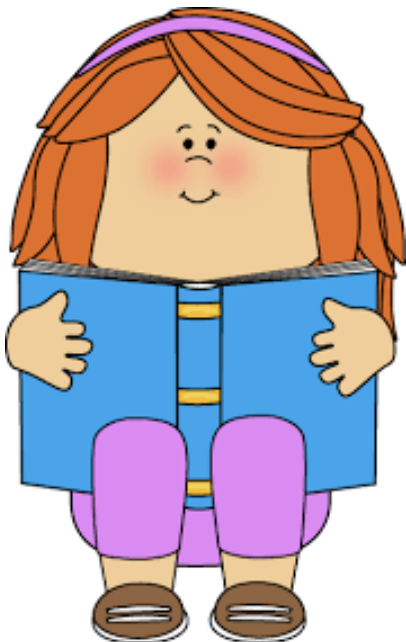
Telephone: (053) 9234245



Coláiste Bríde
Guidance Counselling Service

Differential Aptitude Tests (DAT) for Guidance

Results Booklet



Explanation of the Differential Aptitude Tests (DATs)

- DATs - stands for Differential Aptitude Tests.
- An aptitude - is **an ability** in a certain area.
- DATs assess **8** important aptitudes/abilities:
 - 1) Verbal Reasoning
 - 2) Numerical Reasoning
 - 3) Abstract Reasoning
 - 4) Perceptual Speed and Accuracy
 - 5) Mechanical Reasoning
 - 6) Space Relations
 - 7) Spelling
 - 8) Language Usage

These aptitudes/abilities are explained in the following pages.



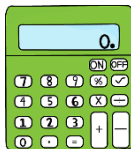
1. Verbal Reasoning

This relates to **language** – English, Irish, French, German and also a linguistic subject such as History. This ability is used in careers where accurate communication is vital, e.g. Journalism, Public Relations, Law, Advertising, Marketing, Administration, Interpreting, Writing, Reception, and Secretarial work, Computer Programming.



2. Numerical Reasoning

This relates to using **numbers** in subjects such as Maths, Accounting, Science (Physics and Chemistry). This ability is useful in Engineering, Science Careers, Accountancy, Actuarial Work, Marketing, Auctioneering, Banking, Insurance, Computers, Surveying, Architecture, Medicine, Optician, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Medical Laboratory Science, and Science Technician.



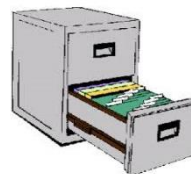
3. Abstract Reasoning

This involves the ability to **see relations among things** – objects, patterns, and designs – rather than words or numbers. Careers which use this ability include: Lawyer, Doctor, Veterinarian, Research Scientist, Economist, Social Worker, Nurse, Quality Controller, Consultant in Business and Finance, Detective – these careers, and any work which involves moving from evidence presented to find either a cause or a solution require a high degree of abstract reasoning. Subjects particularly relating to this ability include: Applied Maths, Chemistry and Physics.



4. Perceptual Speed and Accuracy

This refers to ability in **clerical areas**, typing, accounting, and a facility for dealing rapidly with paper work. Careers include: Secretary, Clerical Officer, Administrator, Accountant, Accounting Technician, Clerk in a Building Society or Bank, etc. Relates to all subjects.



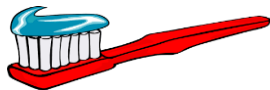
5. Mechanical Reasoning

This refers to ability in **Physics, Mechanics, Engineering and any other career using machines** such as computers, typewriters, video cameras, tape recorders, printing machines. Subjects it relates to include Physics and Engineering.



6. Space Relations

This refers to an ability to think in **three dimensions**, to picture mentally the size shape and position of objects when shown a picture or pattern. Careers include: Architecture, Draughting, Dress Design, Interior Design, Display, Engineering, Dentistry, Surgery, Electrical Work, and Carpentry. It has a very wide application. Subjects this relates to include Art and Design, Drawing and Geometry.



7. Language Usage/ Spelling

This relates to **English** in particular. Competence in the mechanics of English is essential for all Third Level courses and most careers.



8. Language Usage/Grammar

Nearly all kinds of work requiring College Level Education demand a considerable competence in this area.



An aptitude is an ability in a certain area. The tests show your ability in different areas which can **easily be measured. They do not show other abilities you may have**: Creative ability, artistic ability, social ability, athletic ability, musical ability, organisational ability, etc. Ask your parents, teachers, and friends about your abilities in these areas.

Coláiste Bríde Guidance Counselling Service

Parents/Guardians and students are welcome to make an appointment with the guidance counsellor if they wish to discuss DAT results further.



Guidance Counsellor:

Ms McDonald



Phone:

053 9234245



Email:

office@colaistebride.ie



Address:

Coláiste Bríde,
Templeshannon,
Enniscorthy,
Co. Wexford.
Y21 EF82



No one can discover you until you do. Exploit your talents, strengths and skills and make the world sit up and notice.

- Rob Liano

