

## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING DIAGNOSTIC TESTS AT HOME**

### **Information**

A diagnosis is an investigation or analysis of something. The School of Tomorrow Diagnostic Test is given in order to ascertain what academic competencies have been mastered by the student in core subjects.

SOT curriculum is divided up into bite sized portions of curriculum called PACEs. A lack of mastery in a specific competency will not require repeating a school year. The specific weakness is referred to as a learning gap and will be addressed with specific PACEs in which that concept is presented (taught). A student may demonstrate several gaps in their learning. PACEs are numbered and specific numbers are prescribed to the student to accomplish. Three consecutive numbers shown as 'gaps' is considered a student's 'Performance Level'.

It is important that students work alone with no assistance. This is not a pass or fail test. Wrong answers are not held against the student. There are a minimum number of right answers required to show mastery of key concepts. Student should work until they can no longer answer the questions and stop.

### **Dear Parent,**

Following are specific guidelines that are important in your child's being diagnosed into our curriculum. Please read and follow them carefully.

- Please provide an area where your child can work at a desk or table.
- Testing should be done first thing in the morning (after a nutritional breakfast.)
- The room should be quiet and without distractions such as the TV or other conversations going on.
- The student should be groomed as though ready to go out, wearing appropriate clothing, including shoes and socks. Students are to have a mindset that they are going to do 'school work'.
- Student should be prepared to work until they can no longer answer the questions. Please assure your child that wrong answers will not be held against them.
- This is not a pass or fail test. This test simply demonstrates many of the things the child has learned while they have been in school.
- Allow a ten-fifteen-minute break each hour while working on the tests. Students should stand and walk around during this break time.

- Students should not test more than three hours at a time.
- Plan to test 2 to 3 mornings.
- Tests are to be administered without coaching and illustrate the independent work of the student.
- The material should not be read to the student except for the Word Building Test which will be dictated, by a school staff person over the phone.

**Dear Student,**

Please begin your Diagnostic Test on Page \_\_\_\_\_. Work by yourself, without asking anyone for answers. This test will demonstrate what YOU really know. This is important in order to place you properly into the School of Tomorrow Curriculum. You will not pass or fail this test. You will simply demonstrate what you know. Do your best. When you reach two or three questions or sections that you cannot answer, stop working. You may review your work if you would like.