



Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you with an update on the year 8 assessment calendar.

It seems like year 8 has only just begun and already I am writing to you about their first assessments. Term 1.2 is the time in the academic cycle for all students in year 8 to be assessed on their progress so far this year. Almost all subjects will be running formal assessments after the half term break in the fortnight beginning 21st November. I am aware that this is a calendar month away, but I feel it is important to give ample notice to parents/carers.

Assessments are nothing to worry about and, assuming the students have worked hard and applied themselves throughout the last few weeks, they'll be absolutely fine.

Students should take these assessments seriously and prepare as per the guidance of each department. All the preparation needed for the assessment week will be set via ShowMyHomeWork (now known as SatchelONE) and resourced via MS TEAMS over the coming weeks.

In order to allow you to support your child with preparation, below is an outline of the topics being assessed:

Year 8 assessments Term 1 2022	
Art and Design	Split pin imaginary creature
Computing	Binary - Computing systems - Small Basic
Design Technology	Workshop rules & behaviour, tools and machinery, and health & safety
Drama	Adrian Mole Improvisation
English	Poetry: exploration of poetic features and genres, poetry creation
Food and Nutrition	Kitchen rules & behaviour, equipment and health & safety
French	Listening, reading and writing (translation) on all topics from Y8 and some from Y7 - topic list will be provided
Geography	Urbanisation
History	The Slave Trade
Mathematics	Assessment to cover all topics covered this year. Specific guidance for revision materials will be uploaded to SMHW. See separate attachment for further details.
Music	8x1/8x3/8x4/8y1/8y4 - West African Music and Djembe Drumming (Performing a djembe piece in a small group, and completing a Listening/Musical Understanding Assessment for this topic) 8x2/8x5/8y2/8y3/8y5 - Blues Music (performing a Blues piece, and completing a Listening/Musical Understanding Assessment for this this topic)
PE	TBC
Religious Studies	Hinduism - Beliefs, Belonging & Becoming
Science	The periodic table and ecosystem processes.



The assessments will take place in lessons. Students should arrive to school with the normal equipment needed. Individual subject teachers will inform each class of when their specific assessment time/date is.

The results of the assessments will be made available to you shortly before the end of term. This will be the ideal time to discuss any queries you may have around the assessment process and progress through the key stage 3 course.

If you have any questions around the assessments, please do not hesitate to contact me, subject teachers or your child's tutor at the school.

I wish your child all the very best of luck with this assessment window and hope you and the family have a very enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely,

P Whitehouse (Assistant Headteacher)



FAQ's

Q) Can/should my child prepare for the assessments?

- A) They should follow the advice/guidance/instructions from their teachers. Use the resources and tasks they have set. They should do as much preparation as the teachers advise them to do

Q) What if my child does badly?

- A) Assessments aren't about doing 'badly'. They tell your child, you and the school the strengths and areas for development. They inform us as to next steps advice.

Q) What happens with the results?

- A) Schools use the information to help us plan better lessons. The outcome of the assessments will also be reported home in the monitoring cycle.

Q) My child can't access SMHW or TEAMS, what should they do?

- a) Ask their tutor for help!! As a matter of urgency.

Q) My child doesn't know when their assessments are, what should I do?

- a) They should look on SMHW and ask their teacher to clarify the position. If the information is still not obviously available, contact your child's tutor or Mr Tichband, Head of year.