

April 2025

Dear families

Year 10 Cycle 3 Assessments

Year 10 are approaching the end of year assessments, a key milestone to understanding the progress they are making in each of the subjects they are studying. Assessments will be based on past exam papers / exam style questions and will be their first opportunity to see what their work ethic looks like in terms of GCSE grades. The students' approach, attitude to learning along with an effective daily revision programme and attending school every day will determine their success.

Attached is a copy of the Cycle 3 assessment timetable. Students will receive a personal exam timetable, and this will also be available on MCAS. This is an opportunity for students to rehearse, to see how effective their planning, revision and exam techniques are. It is also an opportunity for them to find out where their areas for improvement are so they can really focus their preparation for Year 11 and being successful in the final exams in summer 2026. In maths, science and Spanish, students will also try out the tier of paper they might be entered for - higher or foundation. Being entered for the foundation tier will limit students to a maximum grade of a 5 in the final exams. It is therefore important students do not see these exams as 'just mocks'. Preparation for these exams is a key part of the preparation to be successful at the end of Year 11. Furthermore, the grades achieved from these exams will be used when applying for post 16 places at the start of Year 11.

Students need to sit the exams as scheduled on the timetable as they would in the real exams as they cannot be rearranged. They need to be fully equipped with the correct exam equipment. They need a clear plastic pencil case or clear plastic wallet; two black pens, two pencils, eraser, pencil sharpener, ruler, calculator with fresh batteries for the maths, science, geography and DT exams along with any other specialist equipment.

Access arrangements

All students have been assessed this year for any access arrangements needed to support them with exams such as extra time, coloured paper, word processor etc. It is important that if they have an access arrangement, they show evidence of needing it. If it is not used, then it will be deemed as not needed and will therefore be taken away. The following are some of the other aspects of the academy day where we are supporting students to be successful.

Morning meetings

Each morning at 8:18am students have morning meetings. These are used to support the students will daily revision in school and recall using a quiz of what they have learnt the previous day. Students mark the quiz in green pen which helps them to identify anything that they need to revise and recap. All subjects are covered over a two-week period. Punctuality to the academy, arriving by 8:15am and being in the hall by 8:18am ensures that students are not missing important messages and time to support their revision program. When the students move into Year 11 these sessions will be expert lecture style sessions led by the heads of department with a focus on key areas to support students to be successful when they take their exams in summer 2026.

Personal Development Studies (PDS)

During PDS staff will support the students with their study skills and revision techniques.

Dream Team

In the next couple of weeks students will start to reflect on all aspects of academy life, what they have achieved so far but also what they need to improve and setting targets. They will present their report to you and a member of staff on Friday 18 July during the Dream Team event when you will receive the Cycle 3 report and the results of the assessments.

Private Tutors

We are sometimes asked about private tutors or parents organising 1 to 1 tuition during year 10 and 11. In some cases, the experience is that a tutor is not needed and may not have the impact required. Attending school every day and working hard with a can-do attitude, showing determination and having a regular programme of independent revision along with attending any sessions in school is what works in most instances. Tutors are useful where 1 to 1 support is provided to work on specific subject gaps, alongside an independent revision programme.

If you have any queries about any of the above or would like to discuss your child's progress and strategies for this year then please contact your child's form tutor or Mr Mohammed, Head of Year 10.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Orton
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Year 10 Cycle 3 Assessment Timetable

Time	Mon 2 June	Tues 3 June	Weds 4 June	Thurs 5 June	Fri 6 June
Morning	Science Paper 1 Biology Combined 1 hour 15 mins Triple 1 hour 45 mins	English Literature 1 hour 45 mins			
11am			DT 2 hours		
Afternoon	RE 1 hour 45 mins	Spanish Writing Higher 1 hour 15mins Foundation 1hour 10mins		Computer Science Paper 1 1 hour 30 mins	

Exam Equipment (*in clear pencil case/plastic wallet*)

- * 2 Black Pens.
- * 2 Pencils Sharpened.
- * Ruler and eraser.
- * Protractor and compass.
- * Calculator (Maths, DT and Science).
- * You can take a drink of water in a clear bottle.
- * Any other subject specific equipment.

Time	Mon 9 June	Mon 10 June	Weds 11 June	Thurs 12 June	Fri 13 June
Morning					
11am					
Afternoon	Drama Computer Science Paper 2 1 hour 30 mins		Science Paper 1 Chemistry Combined 1 hour 15 mins Triple 1 hour 45 mins	English Language 1 hour 45 mins	

Time	Mon 16 June	Tues 17 June	Weds 18 June	Thurs 19 June	Fri 20 June
Morning				Geography History 1 hour 30 mins	
11am					Spanish Reading Higher 1 hour Foundation 45 mins
Afternoon	Maths Paper 1 Non-Calculator 1 hour 30mins		Science Paper 1 Physics Combined 1 hour 15 mins Triple 1 hour 45 mins	Maths Paper 2 Calculator 1 hour 30mins	Spanish Listening Higher 45 mins Foundation 35 mins

Art exam – 1 day

Option P group Wednesday 25 June

Option Q group Thursday 26 June

Music exam will take place in lessons.

Sport studies, Health & Social Care and IT students have been working on coursework in year 9 and 10. This will be submitted in May. The examined unit for these courses takes place in Year 11.

Spanish speaking exams – dates to be confirmed.