

April 2025

Dear families

Year 8 Cycle 3 Assessments

Year 8 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. The students' approach, attitude to learning along with an effective daily revision programme and attending school every day will determine their success. Please support your child with their revision by providing a quiet place to study free from distractions. Asking them to tell you what they have learnt is a useful part of the revision process.

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 see how effective their planning, revision and exam techniques are and for them to identify their areas for improvement and prepare for success in year 9. Preparation for these exams is a key part of the preparation to be successful at the end of Year 11 in the final exams in the Summer 2028.

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. We run the exams as we would the final GCSEs to support the students with what to expect when sitting the real exams.

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 three-week period. Punctuality to the academy, arriving by 8:15am and being in the Sports Hall by 8:18am ensures that students are not missing important messages and time to support their revision program.

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.

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 Mrs Naaz-Mason, Head of Year 8.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Orton
Senior Vice Principal
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Year 8 Cycle 3 Assessment Timetable

Time	Mon 23 June	Tue 24 June	Weds 25 June	Thurs 26 June	Fri 27 June
Morning	English Writing 50 mins	Spanish Reading and Listening 55 mins		Science 1 hour	English Reading 50mins
11:00am			Geography 55 mins	Maths Paper 2 Calculator 1 hour	
Afternoon	Spanish Writing 45 mins	Maths Paper 1 Non-Calculator 1 hour	RE 50mins		

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

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

- * Assessments will take place in the sports hall.
- * Assessment for all other subjects will take place in lessons.