



## Ormiston Victory Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers

### Year 8 Assessments

As we move through the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to discuss the importance of assessments in our students' educational journey.

Our assessment policy ensures that children and their families are well informed of when formal tests will take place. We want to make sure assessments are spiraled, covering content from previous learning that will assess both knowledge and skills. In doing this, we hope that your child can prepare in advance and that this can enable you to support at home; making the process more valuable for everyone.

Assessments play a crucial role in not only measuring students' understanding of the material but also in guiding their learning. They provide valuable insights into each child's strengths and areas for improvement, allowing us to tailor our teaching to meet their individual needs.

Here are a few key points to consider regarding the importance of assessments:

1. **Identifying learning gaps:** assessments help us identify where students may be struggling. This enables us to provide targeted support and resources, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to succeed.
2. **Monitoring progress:** regular assessments allow us to track students' progress over time. This ongoing evaluation helps us understand how effectively our teaching methods are working and where adjustments may be necessary. Appropriate interventions can be put in place.
3. **Building confidence:** successfully completing assessments can boost students' confidence and motivation. It gives them a sense of achievement and encourages them to set and reach new goals.
4. **Fostering critical skills:** assessments are not just about grades; they encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and the application of knowledge. These skills are vital for success both in school and in life.
5. **Communication with families:** assessments provide an opportunity for us to communicate with you about your child's progress. Your involvement and understanding of their academic journey are essential for their growth.

### Upcoming assessments in Year 8

There are three formal assessment points for English, Mathematics and Science throughout the year. All other subjects will also have three formal assessment points and each of these assessments will fall within a three-week period. Staff of these subjects will inform individual groups when these assessments will take place and the format, and they will also make sure you are informed via Class Charts.

**The first set of formal assessments for Year 8 English, Maths and Science will take place:**

- English on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November
- Science on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November
  - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November for classes: 8XD, 8XT, 8XN, 8YS, 8YD, 8YN
  - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November for classes: 8XS, 8XR, 8XF, 8YR, 8YT
- Mathematics on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November

**Preparing for assessments – What can I do?**


- Complete all homework set by the teachers.
- Revise using the Assessment Journals below. These will also be available on our website.
- Scan QR codes in planners for [knowledge organisers](#) (or click on the link provided).
- Attend Snack and Study or Homework Club.
- Set up a study routine with your child.

As mentioned above, these are the formal assessment points but lots of informal assessments will take place in the classroom daily through: questioning; low stakes quizzes; live marking; homework; and from work completed in exercise books.

Report 1 will be sent out after the Christmas holidays. You will receive a third report by the end of this academic year. Students will also receive their percentages from teachers as assessments are marked and should communicate this with you.

Our goal is to create a supportive environment where assessments are seen as a tool for learning rather than merely a means of evaluation. We encourage you to discuss the purpose of assessments with your child, emphasising that they are an integral part of their educational experience.

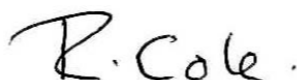
If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Miss A Hazell on [a.hazell@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk](mailto:a.hazell@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk) or Mr. R Cole on [r.cole@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk](mailto:r.cole@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk).



**Mrs O Ballentine**  
Vice Principal for Quality of Education



**Ms A Hazell**  
Assistant Principal for Achievement



**Mr R Cole**  
Assistant Principal for KS3

## Year 8 Assessment Journal – Autumn 2024

Subject	Assessment Content (AP = Assessment No.)	Assessment Format	Weighting	HW/Independent Revision
English	<b>AP1</b> – Journeys' End – Poetry	Spiral exam paper. Range of short form questions with longer writing question which has a very clear mark scheme.	100%	Bedrock develops language skills which are incorporated in core questions and also assessed in writing.
Mathematics	<b>AP1</b> <u>8XS and 8YS</u> GM1- Drawing, Measuring and Constructing A3- Manipulating and Simplifying Expressions 2 A4- Linear Equations NP10- Proportional Reasoning  <u>8XR, 8XD, 8XT, 8YR, 8YD &amp; 8YT</u> A1- Introduction to Algebraic Thinking A2- Manipulating and Simplifying Expressions 1 NP7- Fractions NP8- Percentages, Fractions and Decimals  <u>8XE, 8XN and 8YN</u> NP6- Directed Numbers NP7- Fractions A1- Introduction to Algebraic Thinking	Spiral Exam Paper	100% exam paper	Dr Frost HW tasks and digital KO (this is their course page - can be found on their Dr Frost Dashboard).
Science	<b>AP1</b> – Food and Nutrition – Plants and their reproduction – Current Electricity	Spiral exam covering all of the topics completed since September by this point.	100% written paper	Seneca and BBC Bitesize provide quizzes and follow up work to support in-lesson learning.
German	<b>AP1</b> – Holidays – Media – Staying healthy	Speaking and Phonics	100%	Active Learn, High frequency sheets
Spanish	<b>AP1</b> – Holidays – Preferences – Food			

<p><b>French</b></p>	<p><b>AP1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Holidays</li> <li>– Festivals</li> <li>– Going Out</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Mandarin</b></p>	<p><b>AP1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Holidays (weather, countries and past tense)</li> <li>– All About Me (appearance, my room, prepositions, clothes, colours and daily routine)</li> </ul>	<p>Speaking</p>		<p>Memerise, High frequency sheets, character writing sheets</p>
<p><b>Art, Photography &amp; Textiles</b></p>	<p><b>AP1</b></p> <p>All work will be reviewed for each project that runs as part of the Creative Studies carousel over a half term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Skills in recording, experimenting and analysing and responding to artists.</li> </ul>	<p>Sketchbook review</p>	<p>Students will be awarded a mastery statement: Developing, Able or Skillful. A holistic grade. Each project will be assessed individually.</p>	<p>Drawing Task will be set every 3 wks and completed in the planner.</p>
<p><b>Catering</b></p>	<p><b>AP1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Understand the need for health and safety; hygiene, in particular, the risks of cross-contamination and how to mitigate against risk.</li> <li>– Skills in preparation, cooking and presentation of a product.</li> <li>– The benefits of healthy lifestyle and nutrition.</li> </ul>	<p>Verbal feedback each lesson. Notation in their workbook. Evaluation assessments, knowledge quiz.</p>	<p>Students will be awarded a mastery statement: Developing, Able or Skillful.</p>	
<p><b>RE</b></p>	<p><b>AP1</b></p> <p>Key language terms from the body of the project work. Students will use their understanding of the key terms to present a reasoned answer which reflects their practiced skills in presenting a justified opinion</p>	<p>Short multiple-choice quiz on key terms. Short format paragraph response. KO scores are recorded each half term / unit. Teacher assessment using a mastery statement. Knowledge Organiser scores, in lesson oracy and discussion and booklet work.</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>Review key terms at home using Knowledge Organisers.</p>

<b>Geography</b>	<b>AP1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Tectonic processes, earthquakes and associated hazards</li> <li>– Themes covered in 'Asia' unit</li> </ul>	Written assessment with a mix of multiple-choice, short answer and long answer questions. Explain 3- and 4-mark questions. An unsupported 8-mark question.	100%	Homework is set in the first fortnight of Autumn 2 and due in 3 wks later
<b>History</b>	<b>AP1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Civil War – how was the 'World turned upside down?'</li> <li>– The Aztec Empire</li> <li>– Knowledge Organisers 1 &amp; 2</li> </ul>	5 multiple choice questions, 1 source based question, 1 knowledge-based question.	100%	Revision with rewards attached set wk3-wk6 every half term
<b>PE</b>	<b>AP1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Joints</li> </ul>	20 multiple choice questions	20% (80% practical assessment)	Learning homework from KO set every 2 wks