



Ormiston Victory Academy

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October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 9 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 9

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 will inform individual groups of 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 9 English, Maths and Science will take place:

- Science on Monday 18th November
- Mathematics on Tuesday 19th November
- English on Monday 25th November

Preparing for assessments – What can I do?

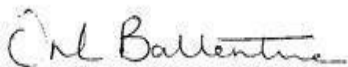
- Complete all homework set by the teachers.
- Revise using the Assessment Journals below. These will also be available on our website.
- Scan QR codes in planners for [knowledge organisers](#) (or click on the link provided).
- Attend Snack and Study or Homework Club.
- Set up a study routine with your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

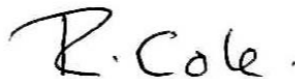
If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Miss A Hazell on a.hazell@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk or Mr. R Cole on r.cole@ormistonvictoryacademy.co.uk.



Mrs O Ballentine
Vice Principal for Quality of Education



Ms A Hazell
Assistant Principal for Achievement



Mr R Cole
Assistant Principal for KS3



Year 9 Assessment Journal – Autumn 2024

Subject	Assessment Content (AP = Assessment No.)	Assessment Format	Weighting	HW/Independent Revision
English	AP1 – Poetry – Blood Brothers	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	AP1 – A3 - Manipulating and simplifying expressions – A4 - Linear equations – NP10 - Proportional reasoning – GM2 - Polygons and angles	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	AP1 – Metals and their uses – Breathing and Respiration	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	AP1 – School	Writing and translation	100%	Active Learn, High Frequency sheets
Spanish	AP1 – Media and Hobbies			
French	AP1 – Media and Technology			
Mandarin	AP1 – All About Me (appearance, my room, prepositions, clothes, colours and daily routine) – Where I Live (my town, directions, weekend plans, my home) – Future tense			Memerise, High Frequency sheets, Character Writing sheets
Computing	AP1 25 question multiple-choice Knowledge Organiser quiz.	Knowledge Organiser assessment	100% theory assessment	Revise for KO quiz.
Art, Photography & Textiles	AP1, 2, 3 All work will be reviewed for each project that runs as part of the Creative Studies carousel. Students	Sketchbook review	A holistic grade that will recognise skills. Each	

	will be awarded a mastery statement: Developing, Able or Skillful. These will recognise the broad skills covered and will balance skills in recording, experimenting and analysing and responding to artists.		project will be assessed individually.	
Catering	<p>AP1, 2, 3</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"> – Understand the need for health and safety; hygiene, in particular, the risks of cross-contamination and how to mitigate against risk. – Skills in preparation, cooking and presentation of a product. – The benefits of healthy lifestyle and nutrition. 	Verbal feedback. Notation in their workbook. Evaluation assessments, knowledge quiz.	A holistic grade that will recognise skills. Students will be awarded a mastery statement: Developing, Able or Skillful	
RE	<p>AP1, 2, 3</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>	Short multiple-choice quiz on key terms. Short format paragraph response. KO scores are recorded each half term / unit. Report data is generated through teacher assessment using a mastery statement rubric, taking into account Knowledge Organiser scores, in lesson oracy and discussion, and booklet work.	100%	Review key terms at home using Knowledge Organisers.
Geography	<p>AP1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tectonic processes, volcanoes and associated hazards. – Themes covered in 'Middle East' unit. 	Written assessment with a mix of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. Explain 3- and 4-mark questions, comparative	100%	Homework is set in the first fortnight of Autumn 2 and due in 3 wks later

		questions, an unsupported 8-mark question		
History	AP1 – Why was WW1 called the 'War to End all Wars?' – How did the world change in the 1920s and 1930s? – Knowledge Organisers 1 & 2	5 multiple-choice questions, 1 source-based question, 1 knowledge-based question.	100%	Revision with rewards attached set wk3-wk6 every half term
PE	AP1 – Nutrition	20 multiple choice questions	20% (80% practical assessment)	Learning homework from KO set every 2 wks