

LOWER SCHOOL (Years 7 – 9)
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HEAD TEACHER Mr C. J. Coole

Our Ref: AGN/LK/Year 8 Assessments

16th May 2025

Dear Parents/ Guardians

## Re: Year 8 Assessments

I am writing to inform you that during the week beginning **Monday 23**<sup>rd</sup> **June 2025**, our Year 8 students will be undertaking their end-of-year assessments across a range of subjects. These assessments form an important part of our academic calendar and provide valuable insights into your child's progress and understanding across the curriculum.

Assessments for English, Maths, Science, History, French, Spanish and Design Technology will take place under formal examination conditions in the assembly hall. This experience is an important opportunity for students to develop their confidence with exam structures, expectations, and time management, all of which will support their future academic success and build on the experience of a formal examination that the students had last year.

In addition to these formal assessments, other subjects will also be conducting key final assessments. These will take place either during the week beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 or the weeks either side, depending on subject schemes of work. Class teachers will communicate the timings and plans for these assessments directly to their groups, ensuring students are fully prepared.

Students **must** come equipped and self-sufficient for each assessment. Class teachers will communicate what is required for the in-class assessments that will run. The equipment required for the formal sittings is listed below and should be brought in a clear pencil case or container.

- English: Black ballpoint pen and three highlighters
- Maths: Black ballpoint pen, pencil, ruler, protractor, pair of compasses, suitable calculator
- Science: Black ballpoint pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, suitable calculator
- History: Black ballpoint pen
- French: Black ballpoint pen
- Spanish: Black ballpoint pen
- Design Technology: Black ballpoint pen, pencil, ruler, protractor, pair of compasses, suitable calculator.

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In preparation for these assessments students will:

- Receive a dedicated assembly to help them understand the purpose and format of the assessments, which will include an opportunity to ask any questions that they may have.
- Preparation time will take place during Tutorial, offering guidance to ensure that students feel confident and well-prepared.
- Subject preparation in lesson time from their class teacher and guidance on what preparation, if at all, is recommended outside of lessons.
- Over the W/B Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Year 8 will have their calculators checked by their Maths teacher during lesson time to ensure that they are suitable for the assessments. It is advised that students have a <u>Casio calculator</u>, or similar.
- On **Tuesday 17**th **June 2025** Tutors will conduct an equipment check. On this day students will be requested to bring in their 'exam pack' which should be in a clear pencil case.

The exams team will be writing home with the final details of all formal assessments taking place for Year 8. Students will receive individual timetables which will contain the specific details of the paper to be taken; along with the date, time, location, and seat number for each exam. Tutors and subject teachers will assist students in identifying and noting when and where their exams are being held.

We appreciate that students will want to perform to the best of their abilities and prepare very thoroughly. It is important that the approach to any assessment is planned and carefully balance with self-care. Our website offers some helpful tips and advice on how students can approach preparations as well as how parents can support their child at home.

If you have any concerns or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Year 8 Pastoral Team. We appreciate your support and look forward to sharing your child's achievements with you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Alexandra Neill Assistant Head Teacher

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