

September 2025

Year 8 Cycle 1 Assessments

Dear Families,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child upholds our core values of resilience, integrity, and courtesy to ensure our school is a place where everyone feels welcome, and everyone succeeds.

We are approaching Cycle 1 Assessments for Year 8. Students will complete assessments in all subjects and these will be held between **6 October and 17 October**. Assessments will mostly take place in classrooms this cycle under exam conditions.

At Dixons McMillan, we use assessment to make inferences about student progress and to ensure that all students receive the support they need. Teachers will analyse students' performance in these assessments in order to plan the most effective interventions in class.

Students will receive their results in class, and you will receive a Cycle 1 Report in December with details of the percentage scored by your child, along with how these compare with the average year-group performance across the school.

Please can you help your child to prepare for these assessments by

- Providing them with a quiet space to revise
- Discussing their Cycle 1 assessments with them
- Guiding them to use their revision material and 100% folders
- Talking to them about their concerns or fears.

Please see overleaf for the schedule of assessments and the topics they will cover.

We would like to wish all our students the very best of luck and continue to thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Paul Murray
Vice Principal



Assessment Timetable:

- Your assessments will take place during week 7 and 8 (weeks commencing 6th & 17th October).
- Please familiarise yourself with your assessment timetable. Most assessments will take place in your usual classroom, at the normal lesson time (assessments in shaded cells will take place in the Sports Hall).
- Only the classes listed will be sitting the assessment at that specific time.
- Highlight your class code to show you when you will be sitting each assessment.

Week B		Mon 6 Oct	Tue 7 Oct	Wed 8 Oct	Thu 9 Oct	Fri 10 Oct
Cycle 1 Week 7 (w/c 06.10.25)	MM		Art/Dt/Tx Assessments take place around other assessments			
	P1	B Band Science 8A/Re2 (Re)	8A/Ge2 (Ge)	A Band Science 8B/Ge3 (Ge)	8A/Co2 (Co)	8A/Co1 (Co)
	P2	8B/Hi1, 8B/Hi2 (Hi) 8B/Pa3(Dr)				A Band Spanish 1
	BR	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
	P3	A and B Band English Paper 1 (SH)	A and B Band Maths (SH)	8B/Pa2(Dr)		8B/Re1, 8B/Re3 (Re) 8A/Pa1(Dr)
	P4				8A/Hi1 (Hi)	8B/Hi3 (Hi) 8A/Ge1, 8B/Ge1 (Ge) 8B/Co2 (Co)
	LUN	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
	P5			8A/Hi2 (Hi) 8B/Co3 (Co)	A and B Band English Paper 2 (SH)	
	P6		8B/Re2 (Re) 8B/Pa1(Dr)			B Band Spanish 1 8A/Re1 (Re) 8A/Pa2(Dr)
Week A		Mon 13 Oct	Tue 14 Oct	Wed 15 Oct	Thu 16 Oct	Fri 17 Oct
Cycle 1 Week 8 (w/c 13.10.25)	MM					
	P1					
	P2				8B/Ge2 (Ge)	
	BR	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
	P3		B Band Spanish 2			
	P4					
	LUN	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
	P5			8B/Co1 (Co)		
	P6	A Band Spanish 2				



Subject	What should I revise?
English	Revise language methods Key vocabulary they have been taught Conventions of a utopia and dystopia
Maths	Ratio: sharing, Fractions: all calculations, Plotting coordinates, Equations of lines: gradients, Equations of lines: $x=a$ and $y=b$ lines, Circles: Circumference, Algebra: Simplifying, Algebra: Expanding, Recipes and proportions, Exchange rates, Probability, Maps and scales, Sequences, Scatter-graphs
Science	Science Skills (Variables, drawing graphs, analysing result tables and writing conclusions), Cells, life processes & microscopy, Forces, Atoms, elements, compounds & mixtures, Particles & solutions, Body, Metals & reactivity
Geography	Definition of human and physical Geography. Adaptations of plants and animals in hot deserts. Definition of natural event, natural hazard and hazard risk. GCSE structure and describing distribution. Responses to wildfires. Primary and secondary effects of wildfires.
History	Pre-Colonial African Kingdoms
Spanish	Holidays and Free time (travel, places to visit, activities, TV, phones, music). Students should be able to write with opinions and reasons, and Past and/or Future tenses
RE	World Religions & Abrahamic religions key words.
Computing	HTML Basics, Tags, Creating web pages, inserting images, managing folders/organising files. This will be an online assessment completed on MS Teams. (Also includes small amounts from Y7 topics – E Safety, Computer Systems, Spreadsheets, Scratch)
PE	This is a practical assessment
Art/DT/Drama/Textiles	These subjects will be assessed based on some practical activities and a short, related written test.

