

HELSBY

High School



Achieving Success
Valuing Others

Summer 2025
Year 8
Quick Guide

Exam
Preparation

Art

Students will show their work to date to be assessed by their class teacher. They will undertake key tasks to assess the skills they have developed so far.

Use sketch books and assessment feedback to date to help you prepare for this assessment.

Computer Science

Students will be assessed on the topics covered this year using an online platform and a revision booklet will be provided via Class Charts.

Drama

Students will be completing a characterisation assessment followed by an evaluation of their performance. Students will be marked on their character skills such as body language and facial expressions.

English

There will be three assessments. One will test reading skills, one will be an extended piece of writing and the third will test spelling grammar, punctuation and vocabulary.

Each assessment will be 45 minutes in length and will take place in one of their English lessons.

ASSESSMENT 1: Reading

The students will be given an extract from a non-fiction text and they will be asked a range of comprehension questions testing retrieval and inference including identifying implicit and explicit information and writer's choices. There will be preparation and planning time for the assessment during lesson time prior to the timetabled assessment lesson.

ASSESSMENT 2: Extended Writing

This writing assessment will test the students' understanding of how to write a formal review. It will also test their ability to use the techniques appropriate to persuasive writing and their ability to write accurately. There will be preparation and planning time for the assessment during lesson time prior to the timetabled assessment lesson.

ASSESSMENT 3: SPAG test

This assessment will test spelling, punctuation and grammar skills.

Geography

Pupils will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of weather, climate, and energy.

Class teachers will provide pupils with knowledge organisers to assist with their revision. These materials will also be available to students through Class Charts. Additionally, pupils are encouraged to use their class exercise books to support their revision.

Form of Assessment:

1. Recall of key terms and definitions.
2. Recall of key knowledge.
3. Short answer questions to assess understanding.
4. Annotated diagrams to demonstrate understanding.

History

Students will be assessed on their recall and understanding of the topics we have studied so far this year:

- The British Empire
- The Industrial Revolution and the North West
- Power to the People

Form of assessment:

- 1) Shorter answer questions to test recall of key terms and events
- 2) Extended written answer

Resources: Revision sheets will be issued in advance in class via Class Charts. Students should also use their exercise books and work booklets to prepare.

Maths

The topics that may be included on the assessment include:

- Prime Factorisation
- HCF and LCM
- Simplifying a ratio
- Solving ratio problems
- Dividing into a ratio
- Converting between ratios and fractions
- Combining two ratios (H)
- Expanding a single bracket
- Expanding and simplifying two single brackets
- Expanding double brackets (H)
- Factorising into a single bracket
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions
- Best Buy problems
- Recipe problems
- Use a conversion graph
- Calculate the mean, mode, median and range from a list of data
- Calculate averages from a table
- Forming and solving equations
- Angle rules including parallel lines
- Straight line graphs
- Working with decimals
- Standard form

These will be topics that have been covered in class in the build up to the assessment and opportunities for practice and revision of these will be implemented into recall tasks in the build up to assessments. Students should ensure their SparxMaths is up to date as these tasks correspond to the work covered.

MFL

French

You will have a similar assessment to previously. It will test you on some of the phonics, vocabulary & grammar that we have studied this year. There will be 4 sections:

- 1 PHONICS – pronouncing some of the key sounds that we have learnt
- 2 VOCAB & GRAMMAR – translate sentences into English
- 3 VOCAB & GRAMMAR – translate sentences into French
- 4 INDEPENDENT WRITING – write a few sentences on some of the topics we have covered this year.

How to prepare:

- Listen especially carefully during the lessons just before the assessments as we will do plenty of recall and revision together.
- Your teacher will load revision sets onto Language Nut, so that you can revise at home
- Practise writing sentences about the following –
 - 1 You, your family & friends
 - 2 Your school & what you do at school
 - 3 What you did last weekend (past tense)
 - 4 What you are going to do in the summer (future tense)

German

You will have a similar assessment to previously. It will test you on some of the phonics, vocabulary & grammar that we have studied this year. There will be 4 sections:

- 1 PHONICS – pronouncing some of the key sounds that we have learnt
- 2 VOCAB & GRAMMAR – translate sentences into English
- 3 VOCAB & GRAMMAR – translate sentences into French
- 4 INDEPENDENT WRITING – write a few sentences on some of the topics we have covered this year.

How to prepare:

- Listen especially carefully during the lessons just before the assessments as we will do plenty of recall and revision together.
- Your teacher will load revision sets onto Quizlet, so that you can revise at home
- Use your Language Guide, to revise some of the grammar rules
- Practise writing sentences about the following –
 - 1 Expressing and justifying opinions
(Ich schwimme gern, weil es lustig ist - I like swimming because it's fun)
 - 2 Narrating a past trip
(Letztes Jahr bin ich nach Deutschland gefahren - Last year I travelled to Germany)
 - 3 Discussing future plans
(Morgen werde ich in die Stadt gehen - Tomorrow I will go to town)
 - 4 Giving advice
(Er soll die Hausaufgaben machen - He should do the homework)

Music

Students will be completing a performance or composition assessment depending on the topic they are studying. Students will be assessed on the quality of their performance/ composition and how well it meets the criteria in their assessment booklets. Students will perform as a group and will be marked on their accuracy and timing individually and as a group. Students will be marked on how well they have used the information in lessons to create a piece suitable to the task.

PE

Students are assessed half termly in three areas (Cognitive, Social, Physical) based on a 5-stage model: Beginner through to Expert. They are given the average of the 3 scores for both activities covered in a half term.

Religious Education

Students need to look at the following topics:

Philosophy - Key terms and definitions, how did the world begin? Arguments for and against God's existence

Hinduism - Key terms and definitions, Worship both in the home and at the Mandir

Islam - 5 Pillars of Islam and features/purpose of the Mosque

There will be revision sheets on class charts containing a summary of all of the relevant information.

Science

Students will be tested on the following;

8P6: Forces – pressure, atmospheric pressure, pressure in liquids, floating and sinking, pressure at depth.

8C5: Chemical Reactions – reactions, combustion and oxidation, thermal decomposition, displacement, metals and acids, neutralisation, catalysts

8C6: Energetics – energy changes, exothermic and endothermic, reaction profiles

8B5: Human Systems – the respiratory system, the lungs, efficient gas exchange, the heart, blood vessels, the blood, impact of exercise, impact of smoking, impact of asthma

8P7: Waves – types of waves, wave speed, sound waves, hearing and the ear, ultrasound

8P8: Magnetism – magnetism, magnetic fields, Earth's magnetic field, electromagnets

Technology

Food studies

- Each student's ongoing practical work will be used to form a practical assessment and they will also undertake a written assessment which will take place in their one and only food lesson during their allocated assessment fortnight. If, due to a scheduled practical lesson, this is unable to happen, the written assessment may fall slightly outside of the official assessment window but this will be communicated to the group if this is the case.
- The written assessment will cover the topics listed below.
 - Food hygiene and safety
 - The different food groups and the Eatwell Guide
 - Basic nutrition: The main nutrients and their functions(jobs)
 - Energy and energy balance
 - Starchy carbohydrate foods: including cereal crops
 - Primary and secondary food processing in food manufacture
 - Breadmaking: the process itself as well as the functions of the ingredients
 - Reading data off a food label to compare products

- Students were given a hard copy of the knowledge organiser at the start of the year to help them focus their revision for all assessments throughout the year. Copies of these are available on ClassCharts and they can obtain a replacement copy from their food teacher.

Design Technology

The written assessment will take place during each group's first Design and Technology lesson of their allocated assessment fortnight.

- Year 8 Design and Technology students will complete a written progress test assessment and will also be marked on their most recent practical outcome.
- They will be assessed on specific areas linked to the projects they have been learning about in lessons.
- Design and Technology knowledge banks/organisers will be uploaded to Class Charts to support preparation.

The topics for specific classes are listed below:

Miss Beardmore 8o1, 8o2, 8y1, 8y4	Mr Kelly 8o4, 8y2, 8y3	Mrs Owen 8o5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Design Process • Sustainability • Product Analysis • The Six R's • Renewable Energy • Fossil Fuels • Specification Points • CAD/CAM • Design Movements • Metals – Categories and Properties • Stock Forms • Forming and Joining Processes • Tools, Equipment, Processes, Components, and Parts Linked to Your Mood Light Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Design Process • Design Movements • Metals – Categories and Properties • Stock Forms • Forming and Joining Processes • Product Analysis, Including ACCESS FM • Systems Approach to Designing • Tools, Equipment, Processes, Components, and Parts Linked to Your Mood Light Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Design Process • Product Analysis, Including ACCESS FM • Systems Approach to Designing • Tools, Equipment, Processes, Components, and Parts Linked to Your Mood Light Project • Sustainability • Product Analysis • The Six R's • Renewable Energy • Fossil Fuels
8o3 Miss Beardmore and Mr Kelly		8y5 Miss Beardmore and Mrs Owen

- The Design Process
- Sustainability
- Product Analysis
- The Six R's
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