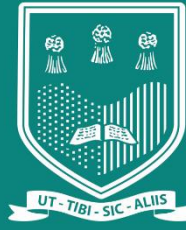


**HELSBY**

**High School**



Achieving Success  
Valuing Others

**2025-2026**

**Year 9**

**Quick Guide**

**Summer Assessment Preparation**

## **Art**

The assessments will take place in both Art lessons for each class across the exam fortnight.

Students will complete observation drawing using tonal shading and mark making. You will recall skills that you have developed in class to develop a series of drawings in a range of drawing styles.

## **Computer Science**

In Computer Science, students are assessed after each unit of work and therefore there will be no formal assessment during this period.

## **Design & Technology**

The Year 9 Design and Technology written assessment will take place during each group's single lesson within their allocated assessment fortnight.

Students will complete a written progress test and will also be assessed on their ongoing practical work.

Design and Technology knowledge banks will be uploaded to Class Charts to support revision and preparation.

The written assessment will focus on content directly related to the current project, including students' knowledge and understanding of:

- Design Process
- Product Analysis
- Art Deco and De Stijl
- Timbers
- Timber Joining Methods
- Measuring and marking out
- Processes, Components, and Techniques (Desk Organiser Project)
- Health and Safety

## **Drama**

Year 9 will be completing a practical assessment using a script. Students will be given the script on the day and will be given preparation time. Students will complete this in their drama lesson within the assessment fortnight.

## English

### **Writing Examination: Creative Prose Writing 45 minutes (60 minutes for students with extra time)**

The English Language Examination will test the students' ability to write a short story. Students will be able to choose a title from a choice of four. 16 of the available marks are awarded for vocabulary, sentence structure, spelling and punctuation.

Students are expected to write between 350 and 500 words.

Students should prepare for this examination by practising their creative writing skills, revising their knowledge and understanding of a range of sentence structures, punctuation and paragraphing techniques. Students should also revise a range of linguistic and narrative techniques that they can employ in their own creative piece.

Students should aim to build a range of engaging, precise and sophisticated vocabulary to utilise in their response. Reading a range of short stories and flash fiction will develop their story writing ability and help to increase their vocabulary range.

Students should use their current curriculum booklet, 'The Art of Short Story Writing' to support their preparation for this examination.

### **Reading Examination: Reading Non Fiction 45 minutes (60 minutes for students with extra time)**

Students will read two short pieces of non fiction and answer questions based on them. The questions will test their understanding of the texts, their ability to analyse and comment on the writer's choices and their ability to compare two texts.

Students will be prepared for this assessment in lessons. They should revise using their curriculum booklets along with any class and revision materials given to them by their class teacher.

## Food and Nutrition

Each student's ongoing practical work will be used to form a practical assessment and they will also undertake a written assessment. Whilst it is aimed for their written assessment to take place during the allocated assessment fortnight, due to the logistics of scheduled practical lessons, the written assessment may fall slightly outside of the official assessment window - the exact date for each group will be communicated to students and also posted on ClassCharts.

· The written assessment will cover the topics listed below.

- o Food safety, pathogenic bacteria and food poisoning
- o Nutrition: The main nutrients, their functions (jobs) and good food sources of each
- o Health conditions caused by a lack or excess of some nutrients
- o Factors affecting the nutritional requirements of different groups
- o Foods from other cuisines around the world
- o Methods of making a starch based sauce
- o Food science of starch based sauces
- o Food developments: organic and genetically modified food
- o Food security, poverty and waste
- o Food miles and carbon footprint
- o 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.

## **Geography**

Pupils will be assessed on the topic *Landscapes of the UK*.

Knowledge organisers will be provided to support revision. Pupils are also encouraged to use their class exercise books to aid their revision.

The assessment will cover key geographical terminology, particularly geomorphic processes such as erosion, weathering, transportation, mass movement, and deposition.

In addition, pupils will be tested on key river features, including waterfalls, gorges, meanders, oxbow lakes, and levees. Pupils are strongly encouraged to practise writing detailed paragraphs explaining how each of these features is formed.

## **History**

Students will answer a combination of short recall questions and questions that require a more developed answer testing their understanding of the events we have studied. They should revise the following topics:

1. Hitler's Rise to Power
2. Dictators
3. Causes of the Second World War
4. Dunkirk
5. The Home Front
6. The Atomic Bomb

Students will be set weekly revision tasks to help them prepare. They should use their books to complete these. Knowledge organisers will be also shared on Class Charts.

## **Maths**

The foundation assessment is a non-calculator assessment.

The topics to revise are:

Four rules with decimals

Factors, multiples, primes, squares, cubes

Prime factors, HCF, LCM

Percentages

Fractions

Ratio

Rounding, estimation, BIDMAS

Negative numbers

Algebra

Substitution

Coordinates

Expanding and factorising

Solving Equations

Solving equations with unknowns on both sides

Sequences

Inequalities

Indices

Angles  
Angles in parallel lines  
Area and perimeter  
Circles  
Plotting graphs  
FDP  
Four rules with fractions

The higher assessment is a calculator assessment. Please make sure pupils bring in their own scientific calculators for this.

The topics covered are:

HCF/LCM  
Ratio  
Fractions  
Product Rule for counting  
Percentages  
Expand and factorise,  
Factorise/solve quadratics  
Factorising quadratics with coefficient  
Simultaneous Equations  
Inequalities  
Changing the subject  
Pythagoras/trigonometry  
3D Pythagoras/3D trigonometry,  
Angles  
Angles in polygons  
Bearings (with trig),  
Pie charts  
Cumulative frequency/box plots  
Averages from a table  
Scatter graphs/frequency polygons/stem and leaf,  
Standard form  
Area, surface area, volume  
Circles, cylinders, spheres  
Probability,

## **MFL - French & German**

French - O band - Tuesday 9 June - lesson 3

French/German - Y band - Tuesday 9 June - lesson 2

During the Year 9 assessment period, you will have one 45-minute assessment which will test your listening and reading skills. The GCSE tasks will be similar to those which you do every lesson.

In order to prepare for this, you need to revise vocabulary, either from your printed vocab sheets or on Language Nut. The tasks will be based on all of the topics we have covered this year including:

1 Identity & relationships

2 Free time

3 Healthy living

4 Celebrity culture

5 Customs, celebrations & festivals

## **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.

## **Religious Education**

Students need to revise the following topics for their RE assessment:

- Prejudice and discrimination
- Buddhism

Revision material will be available on Class charts.

## Science

### Biology

Your assessment will contain all GCSE topics covered so far in Year 9.

#### · B1 – Cells and Organisation

- Microscopes
- Animal and Plant cells
- Specialised animal cells
- Diffusion

#### · B2 – Cell Division

- Cell division
- Stem cells
- Stem cell dilemmas

#### · B3 – Organisation and the Digestive system

- Tissues and Organs

#### · B4 –Organising animals and plants

- The blood vessels
- The heart
- Breathing and Gas Exchange

· How Science Works skills such as; analysing data, simple calculations and evaluating information.

Required practical work:

- Using a Light Microscope

You should bring a pen, pencil, calculator and ruler.

You will be provided with digital copies of knowledge organisers and useful revision links via ClassCharts and/or Padlet.

## **Chemistry**

Please check the checklist on Padlet for chemistry. Below are the topics tested.

The codes refer to the codes in the AQA combined science specification.

The specification can be found here: [GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy Specification Specification for first teaching in 2016](#)

1. 5.1.1.1 Atoms, elements and compounds
2. 5.1.1.2 Mixtures
3. 5.1.1.3 The development of the model of the atom
4. 5.1.1.4 Relative electrical charges of subatomic particles
5. 5.1.1.5 Size and mass of atoms
6. 5.1.1.7 Electronic structure
7. 5.1.2.1 The periodic table
8. 5.1.2.2 Development of the periodic table
9. 5.1.2.3 Metals and non-metals
10. 5.1.2.4 Group 0
11. 5.1.2.5 Group 1
12. 5.1.2.6 Group 7

## **Physics**

Please check the checklist on Padlet for Physics. Below are the topics tested.

The codes refer to the codes in the AQA combined science specification.

The specification can be found here: [GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy Specification Specification for first teaching in 2016](#)

1. 6.1.1.1 Energy stores and systems
2. 6.1.1.2 Changes in energy – all equations will be tested
3. 6.1.1.3 Energy changes in systems
4. 6.1.1.4 Power
5. 6.1.2.1 Energy transfers in a system
6. 6.1.2.2 Efficiency
7. 6.1.3 National and global energy resources