

January 2025

Year 8 Cycle 2 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 2 Assessments for Year 8. Students will complete assessments in all subjects and these will be held between **10 -14 February** (just before the half-term break). Assessments will take place in class during the usual timetabled lessons.

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 in Year 8 will have two sets of cycle assessments; their second assessment period will be in the summer. Students will receive their results in class, and you will receive a Cycle 2 Report in March with details of the percentage scored by your child, along with how this compares with the average year-group performance.

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

- Providing them with a quiet space to revise
- Discussing their Cycle 2 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. Your child will be given a more comprehensive revision checklist to support with their studies.

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

Yours faithfully,



Lydia Gayle
Vice Principal



Subject	Focus of Assessment and Topics to Revise
English	Grammar, active reading, comprehension, persuasive writing, language analysis, structural analysis, comparing writers' viewpoints.
Maths	Linear sequences, averages, angles, forming equations, ratio, percentages, area and perimeter of 2D shapes including Trapezium and circle, area and perimeter of compound shapes, constructing bisectors, data and averages, reflection, probability, standard form and indices, angles in special triangles, polygons and parallel lines, forming equations, solving inequalities with x on both sides,
Science	Cells, life processes and microscopy, forces and space, atoms, elements, compounds, mixtures, particles and solutions, reproduction, body, metals and reactivity, forces and motion, chemical reactions.
Spanish	Where you live, what you do in your free time, media, holiday activities, past holidays, ideal holidays, food, going to a party.
RE	Sikhism, world religions, and moral issues.
History	Causes of the Transatlantic slave trade, events and impact. Causes, events and impact of the French revolution, causes events and impact of the industrial revolution.
Geography	Human and physical geography, labelling continents and oceans, explaining how animals and plants adapt to deserts, human and natural causes of climate change, hazards, wildfires, patterns on graphs and maps, prediction, Australian 2019 wildfires, primary and secondary effects.
PE	Practical assessment: skill, effort, knowledge and application.
Music	Musical theory
Drama	Stage types, staging positions, vocal skills, physical skills, drama skills, theatre roles, documentary drama.
Computing	Internet safety, adobe photoshop, binary, operating systems, python.
DT	Tools and equipment (scroll saw, disc sanders, coping saw, hand file, try square, hand drill, pillar drill, safety goggles, apron; materials and their properties (MDF, mahogany, Pine, Balsa, Acrylic), health and safety, design and drawing techniques, Memphis design movement.

