

January 2025

Year 10 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 10. Students will complete assessments in all subjects and these will be held between **3 –14 February** (just before the half-term break). Assessments will take place in class during the usual timetabled lessons, apart from English Language, Maths and Science which will be held in the sports hall to support students with getting used to formal exam conditions and expectation in a longer exam session.

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 10 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	English Language Paper 1: explorations in creative reading and writing English Literature: A Christmas Carol
Maths	Paper 1 non-calculator – rounding, estimating, ordering integers, FDP, percentage of an amount, percentage change, calculating with fractions, simplifying expressions, expanding brackets, substitution, solving equations, solving inequalities, converting metric units, volume. <i>Higher also revise: laws of indices, factorising expressions, volume of prisms, box plots, surds, equation of parallel and perpendicular lines.</i>
Science	3 Papers: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Cell biology, organisation, infection and response, bioenergetics. Atomic structure and periodic table, bonding, quantitative chemistry, chemical changes, energy changes. Energy, electricity, particle model of matter, atomic structure.
Spanish	3 Papers: Listening, Reading and Writing (all 45minutes + reading time). Theme 1: Family and friends, free time, festivals and celebrations. Theme 2: Home, town, global issues, travel and tourism. Theme 3: School, Post-16 and Future plans
RE	Islam beliefs and Islam practices: oneness of God and supremacy, Sunni and Shia Islam, Nature of God, Angels, Predestination, Life after Death, Prophethood, Ibrahim, Muhammed and Imamate, Holy Books, Five Pillars, Salah, Eid, Ashura
History	Viking expansion: daily life, beliefs, trade, warfare, settlement and kings, Byzantine Empire, Abbasid Caliphate, Raids, Danish Kings.
Geography	Hazards, l'Aquila and Nepal, Typhoon Haiyan, extreme weather and climate change, economic world, erosion and transport, coasts, living world.
PE	BTEC – continuous assessment and coursework
Music	BTEC – continuous assessment and coursework
Drama	BTEC – continuous assessment and coursework
Computing	BTEC – continuous assessment and coursework
Art and Design	BTEC – continuous assessment and coursework – component 1 sketchbook submission: research art and design practices, experiment with materials and techniques, document research, generate creative ideas, create visual communication plans, refine practical skills, review and reflect on work, develop a cohesive portfolio, prepare for presentation.
Health and Social Care	BTEC – continuous assessment and coursework

