

10 May 2021



Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 8 End of Year Assessment Week, w/c 14th June 2021

I am writing to advise you that during the week commencing 14th June all year 8 students will be completing their end of year assessments for the subjects listed below. Most of these will take place in their normal lesson times spread out across the week and under exam conditions. However, we might, if Covid restrictions allow, do English and Maths in the school hall, we will confirm that with the students nearer the time. We will, of course, share the assessment results with you before the end of the academic year.

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Geography
- History
- French
- Spanish
- Creative
- Design & Technology
- Computing

We do understand that this year has been difficult and subject to disruption, and we would urge you to help your child understand that they should not be anxious about these tests. As long as they work hard towards them, and do their best, we can ask nothing more.

I am sure you will want to be able to support your child prepare for their end of year assessments. There are various ways you can encourage the students to revise:

- Making sure they do all their homework. As the assessments approach, teachers will naturally be setting homework tasks that will help them prepare.
- Suggesting they re-visit the Year 8 pre-recorded lessons from lockdown which cover many of the topics from this year. These can be found here:
[School closure lessons on Google Drive](#)
- Recommend the use of the BBC's website Bitesize to help revise topics that their teachers have advised them to revise:
[KS3 - BBC Bitesize](#)

You can also help the students be ready for these assessments at home by making sure that they:

- Have somewhere quiet at home where they can work.
- Ensure they understand that assessments will be completed under 'examination conditions' and that they must, therefore, be on their best behaviour for them.
- Have a well-stocked pencil case and a calculator.
- Get plenty of sleep.
- Have a good breakfast every morning.
- Keep hydrated by drinking water regularly throughout the day.
- Don't become overly stressed and still find time to enjoy normal activities, such as taking regular exercise.

It may be that your child hasn't had to revise for any exams before so here are some tips that can help you to support your child in preparing for these:

- Do revision in chunks rather than long periods, perhaps 25 minutes then have a break.
- Start with a list of the subjects to revise and the topics to revise for those subjects. The subject teachers will provide the topics that will be included in the assessment. For example, the Geography department will be putting together weekly homework sheets with direct links to the relevant areas of Oak National, Kerboodle and BBC Bitesize. The sheets will be printed for students and emailed to them so they can access links easily. They will also be doing a weekly in class knowledge quiz based on the revision activities.
- Separate the topics they are confident they know from the ones they need to re-visit.
- Read back through classwork to find the topics that they need to revise.
- Create revision material, this could be something like a mind map, flash cards, revision posters, post-its or condensed notes.
- One of the most effective way to memorize is through repetition. Your child will have repeated the material twice already if they've read it through to understand it and then created a revision resource like a flashcard or a poster.
- Use the revision material to test themselves, get you or another family member to quiz them or even get them to teach the family member.

In the meantime, if you do have any questions, do feel free to contact staff at school – the easiest way to do this is by email. Staff email addresses can be found here:

[Staff Email Addresses - Sandwich Technology School \(sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk\)](mailto:staff@sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk)

Finally, I wish your child the best of luck with the assessments.

Yours faithfully

Liz Williamson

Liz Williamson
Acting Raising Standards Leader for Year 8