

Dear Parent / Carer

## Year 9 Progress Check 2 Assessments w/c 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018

The week commencing 7th May is assessment week for year 9 students. Their current progress will be assessed across all of their subjects and this will form the basis for the third and final round of monitoring. As part of the process students will be completing Progress Check assessments in English, Maths, Science, History and Geography, these will all take the form of more formal exam style tests based on the papers that students will sit in Year 11. Assessments in these subjects have been externally set for use in all schools across the Multi Academy Trust. This will help moderate and standardise the grades awarded giving students, parents and teachers a valid and accurate picture of current progress. The papers for English and Maths will be sat formally in exam conditions on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Teachers for all subjects will be making students aware of how and on what content they will be assessed in the lead up to assessment week; however included below is a summary of the assessments for the subjects mentioned along with how students can best prepare for these.

### English:

The Exam Paper / Unit the assessment is taken from	AQA English Literature Paper 1. It is a 45 minute paper.
The number and tariff of questions	Students will complete one question worth 30 marks. They will be provided with an extract from 'A Christmas Carol' and will need to use this and their wider knowledge of the text to respond.
How students are encouraged to prepare for the assessment	Students will be working on examination skills and techniques in their English Language lessons.
What parents could do at home to help students to prepare	Students will need to create flashcards to help remember key elements of the text and key quotations to support their answers.

### Maths:

The Exam Paper / Unit the assessment is taken from	This will be a consolidation paper which will test understanding across all maths topics on the SOW. It will be a non-calculator paper.
The number and tariff of questions	60 marks – there will be questions worth marks across the mark range.
How students are encouraged to prepare for the assessment	Students will be having some revision lessons before the assessment and are encouraged to take their Maths work books home.
What parents could do at home to help students to prepare	Students could be directed to the BBC Bitesize AQA GCSE Maths site – <a href="https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/z8sg6fr">https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/z8sg6fr</a>

### Science:

The Exam Paper / Unit the assessment is taken from	There will be a Chemistry, Physics and Biology paper. They will contain all the topics they have covered so far this year – students will be reminded of the topics this includes.
The number and tariff of questions	The total mark across the different papers varies. However across all papers question tariffs range from 1 mark source based questions to a 6 mark 'assess' style questions which need more development.
How students are encouraged to prepare for the assessment	The following website will support students with their revision for the assessment: <a href="https://app.senecalearning.com/sign-up">https://app.senecalearning.com/sign-up</a>
What parents could do at home to help students to prepare	Students need to sign up with an email address and they can start using it. They will need to access the AQA Combined Science Trilogy then Biology, Chemistry or Physics courses for revision. Students taking Triple Science need the courses that say AQA Chemistry, Biology and Physics without combined.

## History:

The Exam Paper / Unit the assessment is taken from	The assessment is 60 minutes and is based on the Paper 2 topic – Norman England 1066-1100, and the part of the Health and the People c. 1000 – present, that has been covered so far.
The number and tariff of questions	There will be five 8 mark questions (Three on the Normans and one on Medicine) and 4 marks for SPGT – total marks 44. There will be one interpretation evaluation question, and one source evaluation question. The other questions will be testing knowledge and understanding.
How students are encouraged to prepare for the assessment	Students need to be clear on the advised approach to particular question styles, and how to structure responses. Students should already have condensed revision notes to use alongside their books for the Normans unit.
What parents could do at home to help students to prepare	Parents could assist by ensuring students use their History books to prepare revision materials like flash cards or mind maps. Possible revision websites: <a href="https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/zcmfk7h/revision/2">https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/zcmfk7h/revision/2</a> - Normans <a href="https://www.bbc.com/education/topics/zhphvcw">https://www.bbc.com/education/topics/zhphvcw</a> Medicine

## Geography:

The Exam Paper / Unit the assessment is taken from	This is a combined paper covering content studied so far from Paper 1 and 2. It covers elements of Urban Worlds, Eco Systems and Coasts (covered recently through a homework booklet task).
The number and tariff of questions	The paper is out of 66 marks. There are some 1, 2 and 3 mark resource based questions, some which are multiple choice. There are also 6 and 9 mark 'assess' questions – these responses need to be appropriately developed.
How students are encouraged to prepare for the assessment	Students have their class books to take home to revise from. These include previously produced revision materials and a wide range of practice exam questions that have teacher feedback and marking included.
What parents could do at home to help students to prepare	Parents could assist by ensuring students use their Geography books to prepare revision materials like flash cards or mind maps. Then to test students on subject knowledge using the flash card resources.

If you have any questions or queries or would like some additional information about the above don't hesitate to contact me or the relevant subject teachers.

Yours faithfully

*M Dawson*

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