

The assessment calendar gives an overview of the formal assessments that students will sit during the academic year.

Please be aware that, whilst these dates are planned, external factors may mean that they need to move. Teaching staff will do their best to set assessments according to this calendar and will communicate to students when they need to be moved.

Copies of the assessment calendars are also provided on the website.

Further information on what content has been covered prior to each assessment and additional detail on the assessment can be found on the [curriculum overview pages](#).

Please note this calendar only shows when significant formal assessments are taking place. Formative assessment is taking place every single lesson. This can be through a combination of low stakes quick recall starters, skilled questions, reviewing live work and providing prompt verbal feedback, self-assessment and peer assessment and feedback.

Year 8 Assessment Calendar 2024 - 25

Half Term 1 (8 weeks)

Week Beginning	Subject	Type of Assessment / Content	Purpose of Assessment
02/9/24			
09/9/24	Geography Science	World Map Test Year 8 Key Knowledge Assessment – 15 marks per subject, factual recall of short answers/MCQ.	A map test to assess locational knowledge of physical and human features across the globe. Recall assessment of key knowledge from Year 7.
16/9/24	Computing	ATTN 1 Year 8 Assessment /25 Hardware & software, image editing, media, key terms WWW & Scratch.	Retrieval skills, ability to re-call key information – assessment of learning so far (including Y7 content)
24/9/24			
30/10/24			
07/10/24	Geography History	Ageing Populations Assessment Question Break from Rome Source Question	A written response to assess understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of an ageing population and student ability to reach an informed overall judgement. To assess students' ability to analyse a source in the context of Henry VIII's Break from Rome.
14/10/24	Mathematics Music	Autumn 1 assessment on content from this half term and some recall of content from previous academic year. Musical Tags – pupils will compose a short musical tag that suits a character and creates a good mental image for the listener. They will perform the tag confidently at the keyboard and explain their musical choices using subject specific vocabulary.	Data is collected to monitor progress and will inform setting later in the academic year. This assessment is closely related to the 'Soundscapes' unit of work in Y7 and allows pupils to explore their creativity and imagination in a less structured way. Pupils can demonstrate understanding in this unit through more improvised means of composition.
21/10/24	Geography	Population End of Unit Assessment	An assessment consisting of short and long responses to assess the knowledge and skills developed during the population topic.

October Half Term

Year 8 Assessment Calendar 2024 - 25

Half Term 2 (7 weeks)

Week Beginning	Subject	Type of Assessment / Content	Purpose of Assessment
04/11/24	English History	English Writing Assessment 1 Mid-Tudor Crisis Fact Test	To assess writing skills. Factual recall test to assess students' knowledge of the reigns of Edward VI & Mary I
11/11/24	Food/Textiles Science	Multiple choice recall quiz Y8 Progress Assessment 1	To judge student recall of topics covered, to inform subsequent lessons, to build good study habits, to give individual reflection and development points. Assess all content covered so far in year 8.
18/11/24	English	English Reading Assessment 1	To assess reading skills.
25/11/24	French/German/ Spanish Latin	Listening-Reading-Translation Assessment Translation & Civilisation Assessments Key concept vocabulary and grammar test on all topics covered so far. For all topics see our Curriculum Plans	To assess students' current level of understanding. This informs future planning and provides a benchmark to measure progress. To provide students with feedback and identify gaps in their knowledge. To assess students' current level of understanding. This informs future planning and provides a benchmark to measure progress. To provide students with feedback and identify gaps in their knowledge.
02/12/24	DT	End of Unit 1 assessment (Pending project rotation)	To check how well students have retained subject content. Will be used to spot trends in attainment and to identify gaps in knowledge. Multiple choice includes maths questions. Will need a calculator.
09/12/24	Geography	Urbanisation End of Unit Assessment	An assessment consisting of short and long responses to assess the knowledge and skills developed during the population topic.
	Mathematics	Autumn 2 assessment on content from this half term and some recall of content from previous half terms.	Data is collected to monitor progress and will inform setting later in the academic year.
	Music	Stage & Screen – pupils will learn to play the theme from a film on the keyboard. They will aim to perform fluently and accurately, and to improve their keyboard technique.	To produce a keyboard performance of a piece of music from a film or musical, maintaining a steady pulse & a reasonable level of accuracy of pitch and rhythm. Some pupils will be able to demonstrate a hands-together performance, with a right-hand melody and left-hand chords.
	RE	Ethics Assessment	To assess students' knowledge and understanding of the Term 1 topic: Ethics. The assessment will focus on the various ethical theories/ religious approaches to making ethical decisions.
16/12/24	History	Spanish Armada Essay Question	Extended writing to assess students' understanding of the reasons for the failure of the Spanish Armada

Christmas

Year 8 Assessment Calendar 2024 - 25

Half Term 3 (7 weeks)

Week Beginning	Subject	Type of Assessment / Content	Purpose of Assessment
06/01/25			
13/01/25			
20/01/25			
27/01/25			
03/02/25	Food/Textiles	Multiple choice recall quiz	To judge student recall of topics covered, to inform subsequent lessons, to build good study habits, to give individual reflection and development points.
10/02/25	Geography	Weather and Climate Knowledge Test	A fact test to assess key knowledge and skills developed during the Weather and Climate topic.
	Mathematics	Spring 1 Assessment on Content from this half term and some recall of content from previous half terms.	Data is collected to monitor progress and will inform setting later in the academic year.
	Music	The Blues – pupils will perform a simple Blues melody and learn the 12-bar chord sequence that accompanies it. They will aim to perform fluently and accurately, and they will try some improvisation – a key aspect of the Blues.	This assessment builds upon the keyboard skills in the previous unit, and if pupils did not manage a hands-together performance then, this gives them chance to immediately begin to further refine those skills. It is also a chance to demonstrate a new skill of improvisation, improvising a fill at the ends of lines, or a longer solo improvisation, using the notes of the Blues Scale in G.
17/02/25			

February Half Term

Year 8 Assessment Calendar 2024 - 25

Half Term 4 (6 weeks)

Week Beginning	Subject	Type of Assessment / Content	Purpose of Assessment
03/03/25			
10/03/25	Science	Y8 Progress Assessment 2	Assess all content covered so far in year 8. Will help to provide information for setting in year 9.
17/03/25	French/German /Spanish Latin	Writing-Translation Assessment Translation-Grammar & Civilisation Assessments Key concept vocabulary and grammar test on all topics covered so far. For all topics see our Curriculum Plans.	To assess students' current level of understanding. This informs future planning and provides a benchmark to measure progress. To provide students with feedback and identify gaps in their knowledge. To assess students' current level of understanding. This informs future planning and provides a benchmark to measure progress. To provide students with feedback and identify gaps in their knowledge.
24/03/25			
31/03/25	Mathematics Geography DT Music RE	Spring 2 Assessment on Content from this half term and some recall of content from previous half terms. Weather and Climate Change End of Unit Assessment. End of Unit 1 assessment (Pending project rotation) Electronic Dance Music – pupils will create an electronic dance music track using Mixcraft, selecting samples/loops that create an appropriate style, creating several different layers in the texture, and taking care with the overall structure of the track – using a build-up and break-down. Islam Assessment	Data is collected to monitor progress and will inform setting later in the academic year. An assessment consisting of short and long responses to assess the knowledge and skills developed during the weather and climate and climate change topic(s). To check how well students have retained subject content. Will be used to spot trends in attainment and to identify gaps in knowledge. Multiple choice includes maths questions. Will need a calculator. This is a new skill for pupils at KS3 and provides them with an opportunity to use a piece of compositional software that is not notation based, but rather requires them to use their listening skills to select and layer samples and loops. To assess students' knowledge and understanding of the beliefs, teachings and practices of Islam.
07/04/25	History	Restoration Source Question	To assess students' ability to analyse a source in the context of the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660

Easter

Year 8 Assessment Calendar 2024 - 25

Half Term 5 (4 weeks)

Week Beginning	Subject	Type of Assessment / Content	Purpose of Assessment
28/04/25	Food/Textiles	Multiple choice recall quiz	To judge student recall of topics covered, to inform subsequent lessons, to build good study habits, to give individual reflection and development points.
05/05/25			
12/05/25	Computing	ATTN2 Test / 40 Networks & Internet, E-Safety, Input & Output devices and Media Software.	Retrieval skills, ability to re-call key information – assessment of learning so far.
19/05/25	Music Science	The Music of Japan – pupils will create a Japanese-style pentatonic composition using Sibelius software to notate their work. They will write a melody using only the notes of the pentatonic scale. They will add another layer into the texture, keeping a good balance between parts. They will be encouraged to listen carefully and critically to their work to make improvements. Y8 Progress Assessment 3	Pupils have encountered pentatonic music before in Year 7 through the study of the Gamelan tradition of Indonesia. In that case they were performing an existing composition, whereas in this unit, they put that theoretical knowledge into practice in a composition of their own. Assess all content covered so far in year 8. Will help to provide information for setting in year 9.

May Half Term

Year 8 Assessment Calendar 2024 - 25

Half Term 6 (7 weeks)

Week Beginning	Subject	Type of Assessment / Content	Purpose of Assessment
02/06/25	English	English Reading Assessment 2	To assess reading progress.
09/06/25	English	English Writing Assessment 2	To assess writing progress.
16/06/25	French/German /Spanish Latin Mathematics	Speaking Assessment Translation-Grammar & Civilisation Assessments Key concept vocabulary and grammar test on all topics covered so far. For all topics see our Curriculum Plans End of Year Assessment on Content from this academic year	To assess students' current level of understanding. This informs future planning and provides a benchmark to measure progress. To provide students with feedback and identify gaps in their knowledge. To assess students' current level of understanding. This informs future planning and provides a benchmark to measure progress. To provide students with feedback and identify gaps in their knowledge. Data is collected to monitor progress and will inform setting later in the academic year.
23/06/25			
30/06/25	Food/Textiles	Multiple choice recall quiz	To judge student recall of topics covered, to inform subsequent lessons, to build good study habits, to give individual reflection and development points.
	Geography	Coasts – Depositional Features Assessment Question	A written response to assess understanding of spit, bar and tombolo formation.
	Music	Listening Exam – pupils will revise the five topics from across Year 8 and sit an exam, where they will respond to listening questions based on these topics. They will also answer questions relating to basic musical theory (notation of rhythm and pitch).	To bring together the knowledge, skills and understanding from across the year, and to measure the understanding of the basic music theory information needed for further musical study in Year 9.
	RE	Religion, Peace and Conflict Assessment	To assess students' knowledge and understanding of the issues raised by war, pacifism and justice.
07/07/25			
14/07/25			

Summer