



4th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

KS3 Year 8 Assessment

I hope this letter finds you well at this time. As you may be aware at the academy, we complete assessments throughout the year. The reason for completing these assessments is to allow students to demonstrate their understanding of the subject matter that has been taught.

Assessments allow teachers to evaluate whether their curriculums and lessons are meeting the needs of the students they are teaching. Most importantly assessments allow teachers to identify gaps in learning that students may have and then put in place interventions to address these gaps in knowledge.

Once teachers have identified whole class and individual gaps in knowledge, they will address these with a week of reteaching, to ensure students understand all subject content before moving on to the next topic of work. This means students will not fall behind as they progress through the academic year.

To help students' parents/carers with these assessments we have decided as an academy that we will have fixed dates for them across the academic year. This will ensure that you know when your child will be completing assessments and can work with your child helping them to prepare. In addition, if students know when their assessments will be they are able to prepare revision materials plan for these assessments and take some responsibility for their learning.

On the academy website there are a range of parental tips which are available for you to use to support your child with their learning for each topic covered. These range from video clips to information sheets on the topics that have been covered in lessons. The link for the parental tips is below:

<https://www.samworthchurchacademy.co.uk/teaching-and-learning/mastery-statements-and-parent-tips>

To help with student workload we have split the assessments across different weeks for the core subjects and non-core subjects. At the academy, our core subjects are:

1. Maths
2. English
3. Science
4. Religious Studies

Non-core are the remaining subjects on the curriculum. The dates for these assessments will be:

Y8 Core	Y8 Non-core
Monday 13 th November	Monday 27 th November
Monday 26 th February	Monday 11 th March
Monday 17 th June	Monday 1 st July

Once students have completed assessments, they will be marked by teachers and then reported to parents/carers through the Bromcom App.



At Key Stage 3 you will receive three reports across the academic year. These reports will give you an ATL (Attitude to Learning) score where 5 is the highest and 1 being the lowest where improvement is needed. Your child will be given a mastery statement which they achieved for the assessment completed.

Our mastery statements are:

- Emerging – 0 - 30%
- Developing – 31- 45%
- Secure – 46 - 60%
- Advancing – 61-75%
- Exceptional – 75% +

We aim for all students to achieve Secure which shows the students have a good understanding of the topics they have been studying.

Finally, the report will indicate whether homework completion is an issue for your child.

If you have any issues regarding these assessments, please get in touch with your child's year team using the following email address: year8staffteam@tscacademy.org.uk

We do hope this helps you to be informed about assessments happening throughout the academic year and reassures you that there is extensive support to help students prepare.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Allott".

Scott Allott
Team Director of Curriculum Vocation