Key Stage 3 Examinations and National Testing
March/April 2017

Key Stage 3 Examinations
Students in key stage 3 will be completing internal assessments in all lessons within their given test week as shown below (mathematics and English will not be assessed internally, as the students will complete the National Tests after the Easter break).

Year 9: Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} – Friday 25\textsuperscript{th} March

Year 8: Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} – Friday 31\textsuperscript{st} March

Year 7: Monday 3\textsuperscript{rd} – Friday 7\textsuperscript{th} April

National Testing
Practise tests will be completed to prepare students for these tests, which take place after Easter as shown in the timetable below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Session 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Line up: 08:50</td>
<td>Y9 Numeracy (Procedural)</td>
<td>Y7 Numeracy (Procedural)</td>
<td>Y8 Numeracy (Procedural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[30 mins]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26\textsuperscript{th} April</td>
<td>Y9 Reading [60 mins]</td>
<td>Y7 Reading [60 mins]</td>
<td>Y8 Reading [60 mins]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 27\textsuperscript{th} April</td>
<td>Y9 Numeracy (Reasoning) [30 mins]</td>
<td>Y7 Numeracy (Reasoning) [30 mins]</td>
<td>Y8 Numeracy (Reasoning) [30 mins]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} April</td>
<td>Y9 Numeracy (Reasoning) [30 mins]</td>
<td>Y7 Numeracy (Reasoning) [30 mins]</td>
<td>Y8 Numeracy (Reasoning) [30 mins]</td>
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The results of these examinations and National Tests will help to inform the reports for Years 7, 8 and 9 (End of KS3 Levels).
PREPARING FOR EXAMINATIONS

Make a timetable! - plan your revision
- Think of it as part of the course - not something separate
- Make a revision timetable - then stick to it

Manage your time - develop a regular work schedule
- Arrange your revision into short blocks of time - work in regular, short blocks rather than one long session
- Give yourself a reward after each session. This will help you to stay motivated
- Remember! Revising each day is much better than one day every week

How to concentrate - avoid distractions and practise regularly
- Don't try to revise too many subjects in the same session - switching between subjects may cause confusion. One subject in each session may be enough - may help you to concentrate
- Leave your phone in another room
- It's better to do one small thing well, rather than several things badly
- A series of small successes will make you feel more confident

Take short breaks - you can have fun too!
- If you start to feel tired or fed up, have a short break.
- Do something relaxing - but don't use this as an excuse to escape hard topics
- Some topics will be harder than others - so be prepared
- The secret to this approach - have a bit of fun, then get back to work!

Your best time - revise at a time which suits you
- Some people work best earlier in the day, because they feel more alert. Others might prefer to work after school, in the library. You might like to work at home in the evening. Decide on your best routine, and then stick to it
- Working late at night isn't usually a good idea

Making notes
- Find your exercise book then the topics to revise
- Read the notes, highlight any key information. The aim is to condense the information
- Try a different colour for different topics
- Transfer the information onto prompt cards or mind maps

Quick revision tips – prompt cards
- You can sometimes use very short periods for revision. Five or ten minutes may be enough to remind yourself of a course overview. Short periods are also useful for revising word lists, dates, or formulas. Carry small revision cards and prompt lists for this purpose. You can check through a list whilst you are on a bus, for instance.

Quick revision tips – mind maps
- Write the key topic in the middle of the page
- Draw lines out of the centre and write key information on the lines
- Smaller lines can be added with extra information

Other ideas
- Technology – find an app which suits you. Online revision sites can be really helpful for content information, games and exam question examples. Ask your subject teachers what they can recommend
- Ask your teacher to suggest a revision text book - you may like to vary your revision
- Teach a friend. This can be a very effective way to prepare for exams
- Make a film, podcast or put your revision to music
- Record notes onto a tablet or phone and play back to yourself
- Revise with friends – this may work for you

Share
If you have a good revision tip or find a good revision site, let your teacher know and let your friends know

Ask
Your teachers will help you – just ask!

Take a look at these:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wjh10k9Y64 (Top 10 Tips for Exam Revision) 
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnpQrMqDqE (Managing Stress)
REVISION TOPICS

Art
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7
- Colour theory and colouring. Students should revise colour theory and practice colouring.
Year 8
- Cubist collage preparation. Students should practise observational drawing and collect collage material.
Year 9
- Surreal sculpture. Students will use lesson time to complete their final 3D piece in time for End of Key Stage levels. Their supporting sketchbook work will be assessed as the ‘exam’ - surreal collage, drawings, design development, artists’ research. This will mirror the expectations at GCSE.

Design Technology
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7, 8 & 9
- Students will be required to pick one design brief on the exam paper from the focus areas they have studied in design and technology at KS3.
- They will then need to produce a specification, design solution and plan for manufacture to satisfy the brief.

Geography
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7
Skills to include the following:
- 4 figure grid references
- Map symbols
- Types of geography
- Longitude and latitude
- Measuring distances on maps
- Countries that make up the UK
- An awareness of geography in the news
- Positives and negatives of using maps

Year 8
Population
- Key terms
- Reasons for differing birth rates
- Reasons for differing life expectancy
- Population pyramids for MEDCs
- Migration, push and pull factors

Glaciation
- What glaciers are
- How glaciers formed
- Glacial transportation
- Human uses of glaciers

Year 9
Development
- Development indicators
- Problems in Favelas
- How can tourism improve development

Extreme weather
- Different types of extreme weather
- Comparing extreme weathers
- Case study of an extreme weather event

Coasts
- Types of erosion
History
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7
- Key events of 1066; problems William faced when he became King of England; the Feudal System; the Domesday Book; the Norman invasion of Wales
Year 8
- Henry VIII’s wives; the reigns of Mary I and Elizabeth I
Year 9
- Life on the Western Front - conditions in the trenches; interpretations of leadership during WWI

ICT
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7, 8 & 9
Microsoft packages eg. Word, desktop publishing, spreadsheet, PowerPoint, Excel etc

Languages
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7
In all three languages there will be a reading comprehension question, translations from and into the language, and a short piece of writing
- French
  Students need to revise: the verb être, dates, birthdays, numbers 1 - 100, colours, opinions on colours; opinions on school subjects from the 'Bonjour' booklet
- German
  Students need to revise: personal information: name, age, birthday, addresses, telephone numbers, nationalities and countries of origin, physical and character descriptions; the verbs to be and to have to be learnt off by heart
- Spanish
  Students need to revise: name, age, birthday, dates, greetings, family, pets, descriptions
Year 8
- French
  Students will need to revise: the verb avoir - possessions etc; time, weather and opinions on activities
Year 9
- French
  Students will need to revise: the topics of holidays and leisure; expressing opinions; manipulation of tenses

Music
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7, 8 & 9
- Students will be internally assessed based on the current project

Religious Studies
Topics/skills to be assessed:
Year 7
Joining Religious Communities - Students will need to revise
- The definition of 'community'
- Baptism
- Bar and Bat Mitzvah
- The Khalsa ceremony
- The 5 Ks of Sikhism
Year 8
Beliefs about God - Students will need to revise
- The qualities of God
- Arguments for and against the existence of God
- At least one religious believer who has put their faith into action
Year 9
The Role of Jesus - Students will need to revise
- Qualities that show Jesus was the son of God
- Why Jesus was needed eg. forgiveness of sins
- Explanations for why there is evil/suffering in the world
Science
Topics/skills to be assessed:

Year 7
Knowledge: Dissolving; Muscles and how the body moves; Evaporation; condensation; melting; boiling and distillation
Skills: Creating a results table; calculating means; plotting a graph and making a conclusion

Year 8
• Breathing
• Digestive system
• Respiration
• Circulatory system

Year 9
• Scientific equipment
• Variables and fair testing
• Circuits
• Displacement reactions
• Spread of bacteria & vaccinations

Welsh
40 Minutes: (Reading - 20 Minutes, Writing - 20 Minutes)

Year 7
• Ysgol+Y Tŷ - School + The House

Year 8
• Gwyliau – Holidays

Year 9
• Fi/Teulu – Me/Family + Ardal – Area
• Possible elements of ‘Mae Bywyd yn fêl/Life is sweet’