

September 2025

Dear families,

Year 8 Cycle 1 Assessments

I am writing to let you know that your child will soon be completing Cycle 1 assessments in all core subjects. The assessments will begin on Monday 13 October and take place over a 1-week period.

These assessments will provide us with important information about your child's attainment and allow us to address any knowledge gaps and provide support to those who need it.

Your child will be supported with revision in both subject lessons and during advisory time, however it is important that they are preparing at home too. Please find attached a list of revision topics that your child needs to be familiar with for the assessments. The knowledge tested will be a combination year 7 and year 8 content so far. All examinations will take place in classrooms during usual lessons.

After the assessments, you will receive a report with your child's score, as well as the average score for all students who completed the assessment in the Academy. The report will have a guide to help families to interpret the information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions on

Yours faithfully

Ms McVey

YEAR 8 Cycle 1 2025	Knowledge to be assessed from C3 (identified during IP)	Knowledge to be assessed from C1 so far	Additional information (length and type of assessment)
English	Interpreting texts; understanding the writer's intentions: identifying features of a text; writing topic sentences; exploring and exploring connotations of language; explaining writers' big ideas (What-How-Why paragraphs).	Reading and responding to a seen poem studied in lesson: demonstrate understanding of the poem; select appropriate quotations; explain connotations of language choices; link to ideas about social justice and inequality.	50 minutes
Maths	Number skills: Place value, Number line estimation, Forming numbers, Multiplication and division, Prime factorisation Fractions and rounding: Fraction of a shape, Rounding to significant figures Algebra and functions: Function machines, Algebraic expressions, Sequences and nth term Reasoning and problem solving: Pattern sequences, Two-way tables, Reasoning with odd and even numbers	Finding probability of an event happening, finding the probability of an event not happening, listing outcomes	50 minutes
Science	Naming and describing functions of parts of animal and plant cells; science skills (graphs and variables)	The body (nutrition, digestive system, respiratory system)	50 min, exam style questions
Spanish	Describing other people and things using 3 rd person present tense Using structures + INFINITIVES	Describing a home using 3 rd person present tense (it is, it has)	45 minutes 60 word writing task Listening task
Mandarin	Using measure words, the connective word 'and' adjectives, the use of 'have' 'don't have', question word 'what'	Using adjectives and the correct measure word to describe family and pets. Link with prior knowledge of age, name etc. Translate from English to Chinese information about family members	50 minutes writing assessment
History	Knowledge to be assessed: the battles of 1066, the Mongol and Malian empires, the Black Death and the Reformation	Knowledge to be assessed: Cortes exploration of the New World, the rise of East India Company, mutiny and rebellion, the British Raj; features of empire. Skills	45 minutes



		assessed include source analysis and explanation	
PE	<p>This year, students at Dixons Newall Green will be assessed across a broad and balanced range of sports, designed to develop both individual skill and team-based competencies. The sports included in the assessment framework are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball • Badminton • Football • Fitness • Rugby • Netball • Athletics • Rounders • Cricket 		Ongoing assessment

