



May 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

## End of Year Assessments – Year 8

Since returning to a sense of normality in the Academy in September 2021, students in Year 8 have been working hard to address any knowledge or skills gaps that might have emerged during the global pandemic. Students are now preparing in lessons for their end of year assessments which will take place next half term.

The purpose of assessment at Oasis Academy Mayfield is to enable us to see the effectiveness of the taught curriculum in each subject, and to help identify each student's individual strengths and areas of development so that we can adapt upcoming teaching, and the curriculum, as necessary.

For students, assessments provide valuable opportunities to build their experience and skills in how to revise effectively, as well as ensuring that key knowledge is revisited regularly to help them to retain this in their long-term (working) memory. End of year assessments are also a very good opportunity for students to familiarise themselves with the examinations process in readiness for the formal examinations they will complete in future years.

This letter outlines how students can prepare to perform in their end of year assessments, how you can support your child, and the steps we are taking as a school to support your child in reaching their full potential.

### Assessment Arrangements

Assessments for English, Maths and Science in Year 8 will be 50-minutes in length and will take place in the Sports Hall in formal examination conditions. All other end of year assessments in Year 8 will be up to 50-minutes in length and will take place during normal lesson times in test conditions. The assessment timetable for Year 8 can be found on the final page of this letter.

On our return from half term, students will receive precise guidance during an assembly on our expectations during end of year assessments, as well as student conduct. Students who qualify for access arrangements will have their needs met by our learning support team and will take their assessments in English, Maths and Science in another venue to accommodate their needs.

### End of Year Revision Booklet – Year 8

Please find enclosed with this letter our End of Year Revision Booklet for Year 8. Subject leaders have shared the key knowledge and significant skills that could be assessed in their subject. These have been supplemented with resources that your child can access directly using their Horizons iPad. Students have also been provided with a digital copy of this booklet by email and it is available on our Academy website here: <https://bit.ly/OAMAssessment>.

Principal - Claire Taylor

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## Parental Support in Preparing to Perform

We are committed to working in partnership with parents / carers and communication is key in ensuring that we meet this commitment. The first step that we would ask you to take with your child is to discuss their upcoming assessments with them and encourage them to revise in readiness so that they are prepared to perform.

At Oasis Academy Mayfield, we are also providing you with a Parental Support package. This package includes advice and guidance materials on how you can support your child in preparing for their assessments. This information comes from our partner organisations, PiXL (Partners in Excellence) and GCSEPod. A copy of this package is attached to this letter and can also be found on our website here: <https://bit.ly/OAMAssessment>.

There is a wealth of information on the internet and in blogs about how to support your child with study habits and revision. Assessments can be stressful for students and for you as a parent / carer. It would be useful if you carved out some time with your child over the half term break and, together, you look at the website here: <https://bit.ly/OAMParentPack>.

## Assessment Feedback and Feedforward

The most useful part of our assessment cycle is the quality of the feedback students receive, and how this enables them to feedforward. Feedforward is where students address the gaps in their knowledge and skills so that they can accelerate their progress and better access and master their learning in the next phase of education – in this case Year 9.

Students will receive feedback on their assessments and their teachers will continue to plan opportunities for students to connect with the key knowledge, identified as areas of development, through retrieval practice in lessons. Many subjects will also provide feedforward homework for the summer so that students can prepare for the year ahead when they return in September.

Results from your child's end of year assessments will be shared with students in an assembly on **Wednesday 20 July 2022**. These reports will then be made available to parents / carers via MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) at **3.00pm**. This report will include:

- a percentage score that your child achieved in their assessment,
- an average percentage score for your child's class, so you can see how your child's attainment compares to their peers in the same class, and
- a cohort average percentage, so you can see how your child's attainment compares to their peers in the year group.
- Determination to Learn scores, reporting on effort, behaviour for learning and homework.

We thank you for your time in reading this letter. We hope the information provided here is detailed and helpful to you. Should you have any questions about the content of this letter or the end of year assessments that your child will complete then please contact your child's tutor in the first instance who will be pleased to offer support.

We look forward to a successful Year 8 end of year assessment series this summer and we thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

**Mr S Knight**  
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# ASSESSMENT TIMETABLE

## YEAR 8



### SPORTS HALL CORE ASSESSMENTS

SUBJECT	DATE
ENGLISH	27 June
MATHS	28 June
SCIENCE	04 July

### CLASSROOM READING ASSESSMENTS

TEST	BAND	DATE	PERIOD
NGRT	A-band	20 June	2
	B-band	20 June	5
READING PLUS	A-band	23 June	4
	B-band	23 June	2

### CLASSROOM SUBJECT ASSESSMENTS

These assessments take place in your **normal** timetabled lesson on the date outlined below.

	GEOGRAPHY	HISTORY	FRENCH	COMPUTING	RELIGIOUS STUDIES
<b>8R</b>	23 June	24 June	16 June	05 July	04 July
<b>8O</b>	22 June	21 June	13 June	08 July	06 July
<b>8Y</b>	17 June	24 June	14 June	06 July	08 July
<b>8G</b>	22 June	22 June	16 June	05 July	07 July
<b>8B</b>	17 June	22 June	16 June	05 July	04 July
<b>8I</b>	20 June	22 June	14 June	07 July	05 July
<b>8V</b>	17 June	21 June	14 June	07 July	06 July