



North Oxfordshire Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Year 8 Exam Revision Guide



Set no limits, accept no excuses

Overview

Key Stage Three students will be sitting their mid-year assessments in all subjects starting week beginning 14th December 2020. All assessments will be conducted under controlled conditions in classrooms. These assessments will assess your child's progress from the start of this academic year.

We strongly believe that good preparation is the key to success in assessments. To support this, every subject has uploaded revision tasks onto their subject teams. Daily reading and Hegarty Maths practice should continue as normal for Key Stage 3 students. In order to support students we have set the expectation that any Home Learning/ Revision is to be set the week beginning December 7th, this gives students an opportunity to complete their home learning prior to the school breaking up for the festive period.

We wish your child every success in their forthcoming assessments. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact me via the email address shown below.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mr. David Murphy

KS3 Assistant Principal

Contents:

- How to study
- Study methods
- Before your assessment
- Subject Information
 - Design & Technology
 - Drama
 - English
 - French
 - Geography
 - History
 - Hospitality
 - IT
 - Maths
 - Music
 - Science
 - Spanish

How to Study

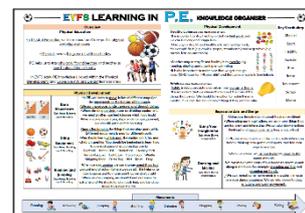
- To do well, aim high.



- Start revising early, the more you prepare the more confidence you will have in the exam. Do not leave the difficult topics until the end of your revision time.



- Check you know what topics to revise. You want to learn the correct information.



- Ask teachers for help if you need it as you get ready for your exam.



- Find a quiet place to study.



- Don't distract yourself with Facebook or texts. Keep calm.



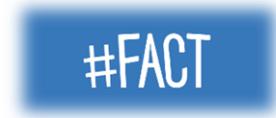
- Exams are not there to trick you; they are to see how much you have learnt.



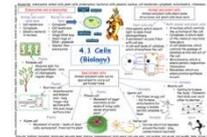
Study Methods

Revision is not just reading your notes or text books. There is no 'right way' to revise – different methods suit different people.

-Choose a way that will help you gain a solid grasp of the facts and strengthen your knowledge.



-You may want to mix methods as variety will help you concentrate for longer. You could read your notes and make diagrams or revision cards of main points.



-Use colour, a highlighter and lots of pictures to help you remember. Write the main points only as you will want to recall all of the important things.



-If your notes are not clear, recheck your text book, do not copy incorrect details.



-Make posters with key facts then display these in your house where you will see them.

-Create Mind Maps with the subject in the centre and key words/pictures linking it.



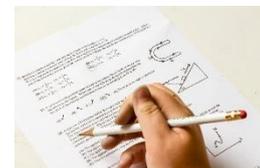
-Record yourself reading notes to listen to on the move. Include questions, a pause and then the answers so you can test yourself as you listen.



-Study with a friend and test each other's knowledge, but remember you are meeting to revise rather than to chat!



-Work through past question papers – use a watch so that you can practise timing your answers.



Don't forget to reward your hard work with things you enjoy. Take breaks. Short blocks may be better for you than a solid three hours if nothing goes in!



Before your exam

1. Make sure you know when and where your assessments will be.

WEEK 1 - February 2018 Yr11 Internal Assessments							
	Pre	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Location
Monday 15th Feb 2018	A 30 min test for the students	PE (2hr 30) History (1hr 45)				Business (2hr) Science (2hr) Maths (2hr) Biology (2hr) - students (2hr)	Sports Hall
Tuesday 20th Feb 2018	Students brought to school	Y11 Maths (2hr 30)				Y11 French Writing (2hr 15) Spanish Writing (2hr 15)	Sports Hall
Wednesday 23rd Feb 2018	Students brought to school	Geography (2hr) Computer Science (2hr)			Y11 English Language (1hr 45)	History (2hr 15) Computer Science (2hr)	Sports Hall
Thursday 23rd Feb 2018	Students brought to school	Y11 Maths (2hr 30)		Resistant Materials (2hr) Chemistry (1hr 45)		Psychology (2hr 30) ICT (2hr 30) Drama (2hr) - students (2hr)	Sports Hall / ROOM
Friday 23rd Feb 2018	Students brought to school	Physics (1hr 45) Football (1hr 45) ICT (2hr) - students (2hr)		Music (2hr) (1hr 45) Drama (2hr)		French Reading (1hr) ICT (2hr) - students (1hr 45) Food (2hr) - students (2hr)	Sports Hall

2. Make sure you have all the equipment you will need.



3. Make sure you eat breakfast and have a drink to help you focus.



4. Do not stay up late the night before.



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4:00 pm							
4:30 pm							
5:00 pm							
5:30 pm							
6:00 pm							
6:30 pm							

Subject Information

Design & Technology

Contact: Eddie.brick@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Our year 8 curriculum aims to build on the foundational knowledge covered in yr.7. Much of the material covered in year 7 will be covered again to help consolidate these ideas as we begin to look further into the application of their new skills, through slightly more challenging design and practical projects along with further analysis of the theory principles of materials & properties which will be fundamentals later in KS4.

Assessment criteria for the Mid-Year assessment:

10mks = Research, Analysis & Initial Design Ideas

- Creativity of initial ideas
- How well they acknowledge the design brief given
- Quality & relevance of research – has the student shown how & why they have researched specific topics
- Analysis of existing products – has the student effectively engaged in the process of analysing & evaluating existing examples to identify the characteristics of good/bad design solutions, and discover ideas similar to their own?

10mks = Specifications and development of Ideas

- Has the pupil shown a good understanding of the key specification points for this design project?
- Is it evident that the pupil has been able to relate these general ideas to the specific design challenge at hand?
- Has the pupil used the design specification to identify and develop areas of their initial ideas which need further attention?

15mks = Communication Skills & Evaluation

- Has the pupil clearly invested time & effort into developing clear, presentable sketches of their design ideas
 - Application of design sketching techniques; construction lines distinct from edge lines, rendering techniques applied where appropriate, thumbnail sketches, etc.
 - Has the pupil effectively used labelling and annotation on their sketches to support their design sketches in communicating their ideas?
- Evidence of each may be accepted where the pupil's notes provide enough information to support interpreting unclear sketches.
- In developing ideas and reviewing their work, has the pupil illustrated critical thinking skills? Identifying areas of success & areas in need of improvement & using this evaluation to inform further decision making/developments within this project, or projected to future projects?

15mks = Finished Product:

- Marks for overall presentation – to what extent has the pupil presented a complete project, including:
 - Clear evidence of their design theme & how content has been informed by research
 - Clear links to the design brief & design specifications in their finished article
 - Have rendering and labelling been used effectively in their finished article & throughout their portfolio?
 - Has the pupil displayed confidence in their ability to explain features/details of their design if questioned?
 - Has the pupil identified areas for further development of their finished article if it were to be reviewed for improvement or given more time?

Subject Information

Drama

Contact: beccy.everett@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Term 1 has focused on key moments in theatre history and students have explored some of the key techniques associated with each of the theatre styles and genres. Term 2 has focused on the exploration of Shakespeare and Romeo and Juliet. Students have been learning about the plot of Romeo and Juliet, the key language and the characters within this play. They have been developing their own interpretations of the key aspects of the text and explored these practically. Students have also been re-capping the vocal and physical skills used in performance.

VOCAL SKILLS		PHYSICAL SKILLS	
Tone of voice	Pause	Gesture	
Pace	Projection	Facial expressions	
Volume		Body Language	
Pitch		Stance	Posture

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

- Key words – students will be expected to use the key words in sentences in the correct way.
- Live Theatre Evaluation - students will answer two questions based on a live theatre performance (of Romeo and Juliet) that will ask them to analyse and evaluate the performance skills and a technical aspect of the performance they have seen.
- Students practical work will also be taken into account as part of their assessment.

Subject Information

English

Contact: katherine.graham@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview

Anne Frank/Kindertransport Unit 1 and 2 focuses on analysis of both fiction and non-fiction. We will be introducing students to tone and the impact this has on how language is interpreted for both literature and language papers. Furthermore, students will begin to work on understanding extracts and familiarising students with strategies for approaching extracts in preparation.

Skills developed are:

developing students' knowledge of key elements of subject terminology beyond DAFORREST to lift their analysis for both language paper 2 and Animal Farm, exploring features of a diary form and the impact on language in preparation for language paper 2. Students will also understand the importance of context and how texts can reflect contemporary perspectives of an event for study of literature texts.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

Kindertransport: Students will be required to answer a question on the play *Kindertransport*. Students will be asked on a theme or character and will be required to use both their knowledge of the text and apply the skills we have worked on in class to develop an argument in response to the question. Students must have a thorough knowledge of the text and the contextual information about WW2 that is relevant to their understanding of the text.

You will be assessed on:

1. Your ability to form a line of argument.
2. Provide evidence to support your argument.
3. Explain and analyse your evidence to support your line of argument.
4. Develop your ideas.

Subject Information

French

Contact: rachael.morris@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Over the course of term 1, students cover the topic of holidays. This topic is a vital starting point to the year as it introduces the past and future tense. Students will be exposed to high frequency verbs in the past, present and future to discuss holidays. The opinion phrases and connectives from year 7 are revisited and built upon. Term 2 covers free time. This theme follows on well from the topic of holidays as it enables students to continue their practice of using three tenses, which is a necessity at GCSE.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

- Free time activities; past, present and future
- Media: TV, Cinema and music
- Holidays; past, present and future

Subject Information

Geography

Contact: hamish.burton@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Students will be able to explain the reasons for different population structures in differing contexts, the implications of this, and how migration affects both host and source countries.

Students will know and understand the causes and impacts of rapid population growth in Chad, North Africa and the impacts of migration from Mexico to the USA.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

Students will sit an assessment which tests knowledge and understanding from the entire Y8 Population & Migration unit. Students should expect:

- i) a series of shorter response questions, some of which will be based on Figures in the paper.
- ii) a question requiring an extended response and case study knowledge at the end of the paper.

Students should revise using the look/cover/write/check method using their knowledge organiser and glossary for the unit which are in the 'files' section of their class groups on MS Teams. Students should practise retrieval of knowledge by testing themselves on the key material or by asking a peer/someone at home to test them.

How is population distributed globally?

What is happening to the world population?

Why are population structures different globally?

How can we interpret and analyse population pyramids?

How can governments manage population?

Why do people move?

How has migration impacted Mexico and America?

Subject Information

History

Contact: geraint.evans@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

The students will be able to apply their knowledge and understanding of the key issues surrounding Henry VIII's kickstarting of the English Reformation; the European context behind the Reformation; and the religious changes that occurred throughout the Tudor era as a result of these circumstances.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

Henry VIII and the Reformation

- European context: who was Martin Luther? Why did he kickstart the Reformation? What is the Reformation?
- Key differences between Protestantism and Catholicism
- Henry VIII's childhood: family; Machiavellian or Renaissance man?
- Reasons for Henry VIII's Break with Rome: love; power (and money); religious arguments

Tudor Religious Rollercoaster

- The monarchs who continued the Tudor dynasty: Edward VI; Mary I; Elizabeth I
- Religious changes that took place: Edward VI's Protestant Reformation; Mary I's counter-Reformation; Elizabeth I's Middle Way
- Challenges to Elizabeth's religious policy – Puritans; Catholics; Overseas
- Armada – causes, events, impact

Subject Information

Hospitality

Contact: william.allen@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

This term has focussed on Food Safety and the various rules and temperature ranges which are important to make sure food is **prepared** and **cooked** safely.

Students will be able to identify the key issues surrounding food spoilage and explaining methods used to reduce the risk to the person eating the food.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

- Key temperatures including:
 - Fridge 3-5 degrees C
 - Freezer -18 degrees C
 - Danger zone 5-63 degrees C
 - Cooking temperatures 75 degrees C at the core for a minimum of 2 minutes
- Bacteria growth - ways to reduce bacteria multiplying in food
- 4C's of cooking - Cooking, Chilling, Cooling, Cross Contamination
- Conditions bacteria need to multiply- time, warmth, moisture and food

Subject Information

Information technology

Contact: beth.hall@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

The students will be able to apply knowledge and understanding of video games, digital graphics and digital graphic design. This will include health and safety, platforms, PEGI age guidance, game objectives, target audience and designing to a client brief.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

Health & Safety:

- E-safety
- Working safely on a computer
- Protecting your work

Platforms:

- Variety of platforms that games can be played
- Hardware and software required for platforms
- Advantages and disadvantages of platforms

PEGI:

- Age ratings and guidance issued by PEGI
- The purpose of age ratings and guidance

Game Objectives:

- To be able to identify the purpose of a game objective
- To know different ways to show objectives are being completed
- To understand why objectives differ for different genre games
- To be able to identify different genre games

Target Audience:

- To know the categories associated with target audience
- To know how they relate to game design
- To know social status
- To know how a game designer uses target audience information to create a game

Client Brief:

- Purpose of a client brief
- Requirements of a client brief and how to interpret them

Subject Information

Maths

Contact: joseph.chilvers@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Students should be able to apply all knowledge learned from year 7 and in the first 2 terms of year 8. Questions, that involve problem solving, within the assessment may require knowledge and understanding of more than one topic. This assessment is heavily based around number, algebra and geometry and it's application.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

- Prime Factorisation
- Rounding and estimating
- Fractions
- Negative Numbers
- Solving Linear Equations
- Forming and Solving linear Equations
- Coordinates and Basic Graphs
- Indices

Subject Information

Music

Contact: James.stevenson@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Terms 1&2 focus on the genres of Black American Music and their characteristics, including Blues, Jazz, Soul, Disco, House and Hip Hop. Students will also learn about more advanced rhythm notation, including the symbols triplet, dotted note and rests. Students will develop their skills in critically appraising music and considering the techniques used in given pieces.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

- Genres of Blues, Jazz, Soul, Disco, House and Hip Hop
- Rhythm notation
- Pitch notation
- Extended writing

All revision materials including knowledge organisers and lesson PowerPoints can be found on Teams in Year 8 Music/Files/Class Materials.

Subject Information

Science

Contact: emily.willett@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Science in Year 8 builds on the topics covered in Year 7, and the Mid-Year assessment could include questions which test knowledge of any content taught in KS3 so far. The three “Earth” topics which begin Year 8 explore the physics, chemistry and biology of how life on Earth started and how it is all connected.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

Year 8 Chemistry, Materials & the Earth

- Structure of the earth & climate change
- Rock cycle and carbon cycle
- Recycling and materials science

Year 8 Physics, Light & Gravity

- Properties of light
- The structure of the eye and seeing colour
- Gravity & the solar system

Year 8 Biology, Ecosystems

- Food chains & webs
- Classification & variation
- Biodiversity & extinction

Subject Information

Spanish

Contact: rachael.morris@northoxfordshire-academy.org

Term 1-2 overview:

Over the course of term 1, students cover the topic of holidays. This topic is a vital starting point to the year as it introduces the past and future tense. Students will be exposed to high frequency verbs in the past, present and future to discuss holidays. The opinion phrases and connectives from year 7 are revisited and built upon. Term 2 covers free time. This theme follows on well from the topic of holidays as it enables students to continue their practice of using three tenses, which is a necessity at GCSE.

Topics to be covered in the Mid-Year assessment:

- Holidays; past, present and future
- Free time activities; past, present and future
- Media: TV, Cinema and music