



Ark Charter  
Academy

# Assessment Point 2

## Year 9

# Parent Information Booklet

This booklet contains details of the assessments that your child will be taking in the upcoming half term. These assessments will take place during assessment weeks (26<sup>th</sup> February – 9<sup>th</sup> March). Please refer to the assessment timetable overleaf, in some subjects the date the students will sit their assessment varies depending on which class they are in.

You will receive an interim report following these assessments so you can see how your child is progressing.

Please contact [w.brombley@charteracademy.org.uk](mailto:w.brombley@charteracademy.org.uk) if you have any other queries about the assessments.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>01-Mar</b>	<b>2</b>
P1 English 1h15m (HPT) P2	P1  P2	P1  P2 History 50m	P1 Science Paper 1 30m P2 History 25m	P1  P2 Spanish Reading 30m P3
P3 Mathematics Paper 1 45m (HPT)	P3 Art (9A) 50m, Drama 50m, French Listening 25m	P3 PE (9C) Paper 1 50m, Music 50m, Art (9C) 50m, Classics 1h30m	P3	P3
P4	P4 Art (9A) 50m, RE 45m, CPS 50m, PE (9A) Paper 1 50m, Drama 50m French Reading 45m	P4 Art (9C) 50m, ICT 50m, Music 50m	P4	P4 PE (9C) Paper 2 50m, Music 50m, Art (9C) 50m
P5 P6	P5 P6 Spanish Listening 25m	P5 P6	P5 P6 PE (9A) Paper 2 50m	P5 P6 Mathematics Paper 2 45m (HPT)
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
P1 P2 P3	P1  P2 P3 Art (9A) 50m	P1  P2 P3 Business Studies 60m, Art (9C) 50m	P1 Science Paper 3 30m P2 P3	P1  P2 P3
P4 Spanish Writing 45m P5	P4 Drama 50m French Writing 45m P5 Science Paper 2 30m	P4 Art (9C) 50m P5	P4  P5	P4 Art (9C) 50m  P5
P6 P6 P7	P6 P6 P7	P6 P6 P7	P6 Art (9A) 50m P6 P7	P6 P6 P7

(HPT) indicates the mock exam/assessment is taking place in Hornpipe.



**Assessment title:**

This term, your child will complete an English exam in the Hornpipe Theatre on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, which they have been studying in class since the start of the Spring term. In this exam, to mirror the new GCSE style questions, students will be asked to analyse an extract from the play and answer a question based on both the extract and the play as a whole. They will be marked for reading and writing, which will make up their overall grade.

**Topics being covered:**

- *Rome and Juliet*, by William Shakespeare
- The context of the Elizabethan Era
- Analytical essay writing skills
- New vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar

**How you can help your child to achieve their best:**

Students need to spend time revising key vocabulary and concepts they have learnt during their study of *Romeo and Juliet*. Your child will be provided with a knowledge organiser for the topic, which you can spend time testing them on in the run up to the exam. Students should also be encouraged to re-read key extracts from the play, which we've studied in class, at home. You can support by discussing meanings of the extracts and key vocabulary, highlighting in the glossary to support students understanding to the text.



### **How your child will be assessed:**

In Spring 2 all students in Year 9 will sit two holistic assessment papers, each 45 minutes long. Students will be sitting either two foundations papers or two higher papers. These papers will be decided by their teacher and based on where we think the student will be most successful at this time.

All the exams cover content covered over the year so far, as well as content from Year 7 and Year 8.

### **Topics tested include:**

- Coordinates and midpoints of lines segments
- Linear graphs
- Direct and inverse proportion
- Calculate with scales
- Standard form
- Arithmetic and geometric sequences
- Expand and factorise quadratic expressions
- Change the subject of formulae
- Geometry including constructions, congruence and Pythagoras' theorem
- Angles in polygons
- Equations and inequalities

### **How you can help your child revise:**

Maths is best revised in regular short sessions. 15 to 20 minutes every night is far more beneficial than several solid hours on the weekend.

Please encourage your child to use [hegartymaths.co.uk](http://hegartymaths.co.uk). This website covers all topics listed here with video explanations and mini-tests.

Please also encourage your child to speak to their maths teacher if they have any questions or concerns.



## Science

### **How your child will be assessed:**

Students will sit 3 separate assessments each at 30 mins in length and will be conducted in exam conditions.

Whilst students will be assessed on content covered this term they will also be assessed on cumulative content covered across the course of the previous term.

Each assessment will assess a variety of skills including working scientifically, apparatus and techniques (practical skills) and maths mastery.

### **Topics covered:**

#### **Autumn content:**

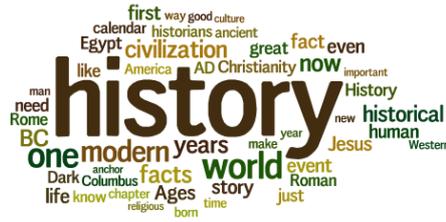
- Biology – Organisation & the digestive system
- Biology – Bioenergetics: Respiration
- Chemistry – The periodic table
- Physics – Energy transfer by heating

### **How you can help your child at home:**

Please discuss with students at home the content they have covered this year, students should be encouraged to approach their teachers prior to the half term with any areas of concern. Students have access to Tassomai which they should be completing **DAILY** to complete their progress wheels green & blue. Parents should be checking student's completion of this regularly to ensure they are maintaining the progress wheels.

**If you have any questions relating to Tassomai please contact Mr Morgan (Head of Science)**

**[z.morgan@charteracademy.org.uk](mailto:z.morgan@charteracademy.org.uk)**



### **How your child will be assessed:**

- They will complete a full warfare through time GCSE paper
- This will take 1 hour and 15 minutes
- It will be carried out in class
- Silent and independent work, without use of books, notes or plan
- All assessment questions will be unseen before the exam

### **Topics covered:**

- London during the Blitz
- The nature of warfare from 1250-present (weapons, strategy, tactics and composition)
- The experience of warfare from 1250-present (recruitment, impact on civilians, training and supplies)
- Key battles: Falkirk, Agincourt, Naseby, Waterloo, Balaclava, Somme and the Iraq War.

### **How you can help your child at home:**

You can help your child to revise using the revision they create in class. This could be testing them on key words, dates or people. They also receive revision homework that focuses on the key battles. Please make sure they complete this.



### **How your child will be assessed:**

Students will have three assessments in Spring 2 of Year 9: listening, reading and writing.

The reading and listening assessments will both be in the style of the new GCSE. The writing assessment will be 2 open response questions as well as sentence translations.

### **Topics covered:**

1. Free Time
2. Students should be able to conjugate verbs in the present and past tense as well as the simple future tense.

The assessment will also cover topics covered in year 7 and 8. Beyond this, there will be some material that has not yet been studied in class, as due to the nature of languages there will always be unknown content on exams. Students should be aware of this and use the strategies they have learnt, such as recognising cognates, to help them face this challenge.

### **How you can help your child at home:**

Please ensure that your child is revising for their weekly vocabulary tests and revisiting vocabulary covered in past tests. Your child will also be given a revision pack prior to their end of term assessments which they should be using to revise at home. Any support in this would be appreciated – you could test your child on words they need to learn without needing to know what they mean as Spanish is written more or less how it is spoken.

Furthermore, please encourage your child to practise Spanish at home by any means. This could be by using the internet to listen to music or the radio, watch TV shows or films or access the BBC Spanish website which has lots of resources <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/>.

Thank you!

# OPTIONS SUBJECTS



### **How your child will be assessed:**

During the spring term art students will continue to work on their first unit of coursework based on the theme of 'Food'. Students are following the AQA GCSE specification where coursework is 60% of the GCSE. Students will continue to work within their sketchbook and learn how to develop their recording skills and control and refinement of materials into personal design ideas.

Classwork is assessed every three weeks, giving students three lessons to develop and refine a piece of work within their sketchbook. Each task focuses on one of the assessment objectives and all students are taught key skills and techniques to help them develop their knowledge, understanding, ability, confidence and use of materials. The four assessment objectives in Art are based on the AQA GCSE strands. They are contextual studies, use of materials, recording ideas and a final piece. Students' home work is assessed throughout the year based levels of effort. The projects are formally assessed with levels at the end of each term and at the end of the summer term after students have produced their two final pieces.

### **Areas of study include:**

- Painting personal responses to the artist studies.
- Photography of first hand objects and manipulation of images.
- Use and application of tone, texture and hue.
- Artist studies on My Dog Sighs, Nancy Standlee and Kim Blair.
- Student's choice of contemporary artists from the paper provided and internet searches.

### **How you can help your child to achieve their best:**

- Providing a suitable area for students to complete homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- Ask questions surrounding homework to support understanding.
- Encourage gradual independence, whilst reminding students of the homework times and expectations regarding effort.
- Offer advice and help if needed.
- Praise and encourage your child to help them develop confidence.

- Share discussions regarding the use and importance of art within society, life and careers.
- Contact the art teacher or art department if you have any concerns or questions.



**What has been covered in the term:**

Students have been covering a variety of key business topics this term, mainly focussing on Marketing and Finance. These are another two key topics that are covered in year 9 to for the foundation knowledge for the subject before students begin to apply this knowledge in an exam context and start their coursework in year 10.

**What the assessment covers:**

The students' assessment will be based on the work they have been doing in lessons throughout this year. This includes the following topics.

- The Marketing Mix
- Promotion
- Business Location
- Pricing Strategies
- Product Development

**Nature of the Assessment:**

The assessment for this term will be a full mock exam. This will performed in normal exam conditions and will test students' knowledge in a variety of ways including:

- Multiple choice questions
- Short written answers
- Extended essay-style answers

**How the student can revise:**

Revision for the assessment is vital. There are a number of ways that students can revise for Business Studies including:

- Students can access their own work from their books or the computer network to check what they have done.
- Students can access the lesson resources in the Student Shared Area (this includes mock exams and mark schemes).
- Use online resources to help (Tutor2U, Business Studies Online and BBC Bitesize are good).
- Actively discuss businesses and experiences with them.

**How you can help your child at home:**

Wherever possible, your contribution to the student's success is encouraged. There are several ways in which you can do this including:

- Making a suitable, quiet revision space available.
- Ask them to share with you what they learnt in lessons and challenge misconceptions.
- Share news stories relating to business real life.
- Share your experiences of the work environment with them.
- Ask them to demonstrate their knowledge of key terms with you.



# Classics

## **How your child will be assessed:**

- Time: One hour 30 minutes full paper – **Unit 1: Myth and Religion**
- Carried out in class
- Silent and independent work, without use of books, notes or plan

## **Topics covered:**

- The Olympian gods
- The Universal hero: Hercules/Heracles
- Temples
- Foundation stories
- Festivals
- Myth and symbols of power
- death and burial
- Journeying to the underworld

## **How you can help your child at home:**

You can help your child to revise using the revision they create in class. This could be testing them on key words, dates or people.



# Computer Science

## **How your child will be assessed:**

The assessment for Year 9 Computer Science follows the guidelines outlined in the course specification for OCR Entry Level Certificate in Computer Science. This will include a Practical Programming using Python and Computer Systems and Computational Thinking.

## **Topics covered:**

The students' assessment will be based on the work they have been undertaking in class. This includes the following topics:

- Data Representation – binary, hexadecimal, denary and conversions
- Logic Gates
- Programming and Programming Techniques

## **How you can help your child at home:**

Wherever possible, your contribution to your child's success is encouraged. There are several ways in which you can do this including:

- Making a suitable, quiet revision space available.
- Encourage them to practice their programming techniques.
- Encourage them to read around the subject of Computer Science either via the internet or from newspaper articles.
- Encourage them to consider the various ways in which ICT and Computer Science is used in society.



- ✓ Encourage them to spend time in the drama studio during lunch to rehearse.

## **How your child will be assessed:**

The assessment for Year 9 C&G Digital Technologies will cover the subjects undertaken throughout the spring term and will take the form of an on-line / software based test. Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge and competence of software applications, their use and functions. This will also include some areas of spreadsheet design and modelling.

## **Topics covered:**

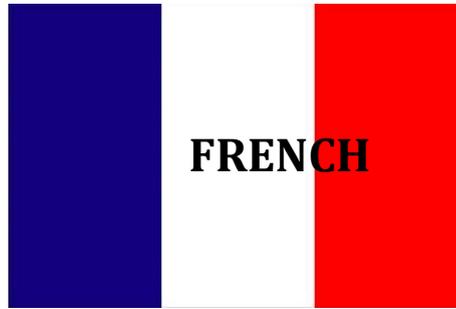
The students' assessment will be based on the work they have been undertaking in class. This includes the following topics:

- Comparison of web sites and their content
- Web browsers and software used to produce web pages
- Adobe Dreamweaver
- Web page assets and content
- Web page structure and design

## **How you can help your child at home:**

Wherever possible, your contribution to your child's success is encouraged. There are several ways in which you can do this including:

- Making a suitable, quiet revision space available.
- Encourage them to practice their techniques and use the software covered in the course.
- Encourage them to produce digital products such as presentations, posters, documents and spreadsheets.
- Encourage them to analyse web pages and describe the content e.g. images, navigation techniques



### **How your child will be assessed:**

Students will have three assessments in Spring 2 of Year 9: listening, reading and writing.

The reading and listening assessments will both be in the style of the new GCSE. The writing assessment will be 2 open response questions as well as sentence translations.

### **Topics covered:**

1. Free Time
2. Students should be able to recognise and conjugate verbs in the present, past and future tense.

There will be some material that has not yet been studied in class, as due to the nature of languages there will always be unknown content on exams. Students should be aware of this and use the strategies they have learnt, such as recognising cognates, to help them face this challenge.

### **How you can help your child at home:**

Please ensure that your child is revising for their weekly vocabulary tests and revisiting vocabulary covered in past tests. Your child will also be given a revision pack prior to their end of term assessments which they should be using to revise at home. Any support in this would be appreciated – you could test your child on words they need to learn without needing to know how to pronounce the words.

Furthermore, please encourage your child to practise French at home by any means. This could be by using the internet to listen to music or the radio, watch TV shows or films or practice on websites like [www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)

Thank you!



**Assessment title:**

This term, your child's grade will be determined by an analytical exam style question of a media product they will study in class, as well as a non-exam assessment where students will create their own media product in response to a brief.

**Topics being covered:**

- Media language: how media products communicate meanings through their use of codes and conventions.
- Representation: how the media portray events, issues, individuals and social groups.
- Media industries: how the media industries' processes of production, distribution and circulation affect media forms and platforms.
- Audiences: how media forms target, reach and address audiences, how audiences interpret and respond to them, and how members of audiences become producers themselves

**How you can help your child to achieve their best:**

Students need to spend time revising key terminology they have learnt so far in class. Students will be provided with revision resources to help prepare for the exam style question they will complete in class. You can support students by ensuring that they are working through revision resources and testing them on media language covered in the unit. They will also be able to complete planning and development work for their non-exam assessment, such as researching products, collecting images, experimenting with various designs and evaluating their work.



# MUSIC

In Spring 1 we will be studying Minimalist music through a digital performance of Mike Oldfield's *Tubular Bells*. The students will be listening to lots of different examples of Minimalism, and will be using composition techniques to create their own Minimalist piece. We have also been studying the Edexcel Set Work *Music for a While* by Purcell. In Spring 2 the students will be exploring harmonisation and will be studying the Edexcel Set Work *Defying Gravity*.

## **How your child will be assessed:**

The assessment will be based on the compositions and performances of their film music and song. They will be assessed on fluency of performance, group work and their answers to the listening questions. This will include an extended answer question and a comparison question to mirror the new GCSE.

## **Your child should revise by:**

- Researching the topics which will be studied.
- Recognising elements of music, including notation.

## **You can help by:**

- Discussing Minimalist Music with them using musical vocabulary.
- Discussing Baroque music with them using musical vocabulary.
- Assisting in learning vocabulary and testing musical knowledge.



