



Ark Charter
Academy

Assessment Point 3

Year 8

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 (10th June- 21st June). 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 l.headland@charteracademy.org.uk if you have any other queries about the assessments.

Assessment weeks 18th March-22nd March

If your child's classes are the subject code followed by A-1, A-2 or A-3 they are in the A band.

If your child's classes are the subject code followed by B-1, B-2 or B-3 they are in the B band.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 P1 B1 Art 50m/ B2 Music 50m/ B3 Drama 50m/ A band Spanish 10m P2 B Band Science P1 50m P3 P4 A1 Drama 50m P5 P6 A2 Music 50m/A3 Art 50m	11 P1 A Band Science P1 50m/B Band Spanish Listening 10m P2 A2 Art 50m/ A3 Music 50m P3 B Band Spanish Reading 40m P4 A1 Music 50m/ A2 Drama 50m P5 B1 Drama 50m/B2 Art 50m P6	12 P1 A Band Spanish Reading 40m P2 P3 P4 A3 ICT 45m P5 P6 A Band Geography 50m	13 P1 B2 ICT 45m P2 P3 B2 and B3 Geography 50m/ A1 Art 50m/A3 Drama 50m P4 P5 A Band Science P2 50m/ B1 Music 50m/B3 Art 50m P6 B Band Science P2 50m/ A1 and A2 ICT 45m	14 P1 P2 P3 P4 B3 ICT 45m P5 B1 ICT 45m/ B2 Drama 50m/B3 Music 50m P6
17 P1 B1 Art 50m/ B2 Music 50m/ B3 Drama 50m P2 B Band Science P3 50m P3 B Band PE Theory 30m P4 P5 P6 A2 Music 50m/A3 Art 50m	18 P1 A Band Science P3 50m P2 A1 RE 45m/A2 Art 50m/ A3 Music 50m P3 B Band Spanish Writing 40m P4 A1 Music 50m/ A2 Drama 50m P5 A Band Maths P1 50m/ B1 Drama 50m/B2 Art 50m P6 B Band Maths P1 50m	19 P1 A Band Spanish Writing 40m P2 P3 A band English 45m P4 P5 B1 Geography 50m/ B2 and B3 History 45m P6 A3 History 45m	20 P1 A Band Maths P2 50m/B3 RE 45m P2 B Band English 45m P3 B1 History 45m/A1 Art 50m/A2 RE 45m/A3 Drama 50m P4 B Band Maths P2 50m/ A band English 45m P5 B1 Music 50m/B3 Art 50m P6 A3 RE 45m	21 P1 A Band PE Theory 30m P2 P3 B band English 45m P4 A1 and A2 History 45m/B1 and B2 RE 45m P5 B2 Drama 50m/B3 Music 50m P6



Skills covered this term:

Students have been studying *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, which is the first modern text they have studied this year. Pupils have been developing their reading with a focus on evaluating the writer's purpose and message by looking at the impact of the speeches on the animals. They have been also exploring the concept of an allegory and will demonstrate their mastery of the key features of an allegory.

How your child will be assessed:

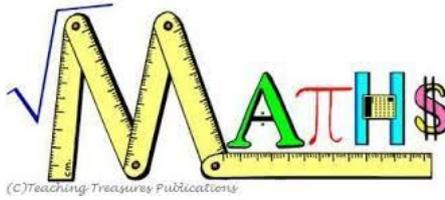
Students will complete an exam, to mirror the new GCSE style questions. They will be asked to analyse an extract from the allegory and answer a question based on both the extract and the allegory as a whole. They will be marked for both reading and writing. Students will have 1 hour to complete the test in exam conditions.

Your child should revise by:

- Reading through their classwork.
- Revising key terms they have learnt in their study of *Animal Farm* i.e. allegory.
- Learn the difficult vocabulary they are introduced to in class i.e. tyrant.
- Re-read the text itself.

How you can help your child at home:

- Testing them on their key terms in their books
- Reading through *Animal Farm* with them. Discuss the meanings of the whole text and individual words.



How your child will be assessed:

In Summer 2 all students in Year 8 will sit two holistic assessment papers, each 50 minutes long.

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

Topics tested include:

- Types of numbers
- Prime numbers and indices
- Prime factorisation
- Use of Venn diagrams and LCM and HCF
- Addition and subtraction of fractions
- Order of operations
- Order and calculate with negative numbers
- Form and solve linear equations
- Linear sequences
- Geometry including triangles, quadrilaterals and angles in parallel lines
- Length and area
- Percentages and percentage change
- Ratio and rates of change

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. 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 50 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 entire year (details of topic areas are highlighted below).

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

Topics covered:

New summer content:

- Adaptation and inheritance
- Metals and acids
- Motion & pressure

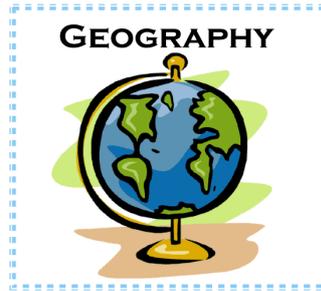
Cumulative content:

- Ecosystems processes: photosynthesis, respiration and interdependence
- Health and lifestyle: drugs and digestion
- The Periodic table
- Separation techniques
- Energy
- Electricity and magnetism
- Forces (Yr7)
- Cells (Yr7)
- Particles (Yr7)

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 will be provided with revision sheets to complete over the half term covering the key topic areas, students should be encouraged to complete these over the break.



The assessment:

The assessment for Year 8 is a one hour written paper that covers the range of topics that students have studied since September.

The topics:

Rivers, The UK economy, Coasts, Economic development, Energy

Your child should revise by:

- Reading through their classwork
- Revising key concepts and geographical processes
- Reading around the topics that we are covering in class
- BBC bitesize

You can help by:

- Testing them on key terms and geographical concepts
- Encouraging them to complete revision at home, even if it is a YouTube video that links to the learning
- Asking them to use geographical terms to describe the world around them



How your child will be assessed:

- Time: 45 minutes
- It will test knowledge, source and interpretation skills
- Carried out in class
- Silent and independent work, without use of books, notes or plan
- The assessment questions and any sources used must be unseen before the 45 minutes begins

Topics covered will be selected from the following:

- The English Civil War
- Cromwell: Hero or Villain?
- The British Empire
- The Slave Trade
- The Industrial Revolution
- The French Revolution
- World War One

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 will also receive topic revision sheets for homework.



How your child will be assessed:

- Skills assessed:
 - Listening: 15 mins
 - Reading and translation: 20 mins
 - Writing: 20 mins
- Carried out in class
- Silent and independent work, without use of books, notes or plan
- The assessment questions must be unseen before the assessment

Sets 1 and 2

Topics covered:

The assessment will focus on the topic covered in class. Students will be expected to understand people talking about going out and clothes:

- Arranging an outing
- Clothes and what to wear

Grammar skills will include:

- the use of the present tense
- the use of the preterit tense (past tense) with regular verbs
- the use of the near future tense
- opinion structures

How you can help your child at home:

You can help your child to revise using their vocabulary list provided and studied during this half-term.

Year 8A3 Spanish Fresh start (Mrs Fowles's group)

How your child will be assessed:

- Skills assessed:
 - Listening: 15 mins
 - Reading and translation: 20 mins
 - Writing: 20 mins
- Carried out in class
- Silent and independent work, without use of books, notes or plan
- The assessment questions must be unseen before the assessment

Topics covered:

The assessment will focus on the topic covered in class. Students will be expected to understand and express their views on hobbies and sports:

- hobbies

- sports
- opinions on hobbies and sports

Grammar skills will include:

- gender (masculine and feminine) and number (singular and plural)
- adjective agreement
- opinion structures (likes and dislikes)
- extending sentences with connectives

How you can help your child at home:

You can help your child to revise using their vocabulary list provided and studied during this half-term.

Year 8B3 Spanish Fresh start (Miss Elkins's group)

How your child will be assessed:

- Skills assessed:
 - Listening: 15 mins
 - Reading and translation: 20 mins
 - Writing: 20 mins
- Carried out in class
- Silent and independent work, without use of books, notes or plan
- The assessment questions must be unseen before the assessment

Topics covered:

The assessment will focus on the topic covered in class. Students will be expected to understand people talking about their school:

- their family
- physical description
- moral description
- opinion on their family and friends

Grammar skills will include:

- gender (masculine and feminine) and number (singular and plural)
- adjective agreement
- extending sentences
- opinion structures (likes and dislikes)



How your child will be assessed:

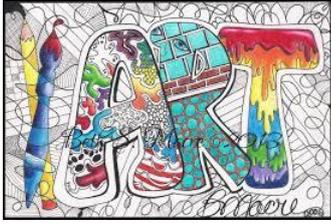
- Time: 45 minutes for mock paper (7 questions ranging from 2 marks-15)
- Carried out in class
- Silent and independent work, without use of books, notes or plan
- The assessment question used must be unseen before the assessment begins

Topics covered:

- Religion and the environment- Recycling, stewardship and pollution
- Religion and conflict- Just war theory, conscientious objectors and pacifism
- Religion and poverty- Christian, Islamic and Sikh views on helping those in need
- Prejudice and discrimination- Malcolm X Gandhi and Martin Luther King Junior, racism and prejudice
- Sikhism- The Khalsa and Langer.
- Buddhism- the Eightfold path and the Four Noble Truths.

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.



How your child will be assessed:

Summer 2

In the second half of the summer term students work on a Surroundings project studying the Aborigines and Friedrich Hundertwasser. Students create a copy and personal design idea, as well as exploring the techniques and processes used by the artists. Students also learn drawing skills by producing perspective drawings of buildings. Students will participate in a taster lesson at the end of the year where they begin working on their Year 9 Art topic 'Food'.

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:

- The symbols and work of the Australian aborigines.
- The work of architect and artist Friedrich Hundertwasser.
- Drawings from secondary sources based on the theme of buildings.
- Accuracy of three dimensional and graphical drawing based on one point and two point perspective.
- Use and control of materials including pencil, paint and oil pastel.

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.



This term in drama we will be exploring Devising Work from a Stimulus. This will be very reliant on research outside of the classroom to help them develop ideas and have in-depth knowledge of the subject matter and themes they have chosen to pursue in class. . We will be focusing on creating characters, back-stories, hot-seating and using a variety of performance techniques to create an original devised piece based on a stimulus. This is a GCSE style module that will develop their independent working skills along with their group work abilities.

The Assessment:

The assessment will be based on the rehearsal and devising process, the performance and subsequent written evaluation of their work and work of others.

Your child should revise by:

- Writing notes for their piece at home. Researching subject matter and themes independently
- Ongoing research that make up the continuous assessment of this scheme of work.
- Come to rehearsal slots during lunchtimes with teacher input and feedback.

You can help by:

- Helping them with practising their performance. Giving them the chance to do research (internet, library etc.) so they can be well informed on their choice of performance style and content.
- Make sure they are n school for the assessment day so not to let their group down.



MUSIC

In Summer 1 we have been studying Blues, looking into the history behind Blues and Jazz. Students have been exploring advanced keyboard techniques and have been learning how to play the 12 Bar Blues Chord Sequence, and the Walking Bassline. In Summer 2 the students will be using their musical skills to compose their own piece of Film Music. Students will listen to many different examples of Film Music, use the elements of music and many compositional techniques to create their own theme.

These topics allows students to explore different sounds of instruments, and how rhythms and structure can affect a piece of music. The students will have the opportunity to perform in a group and as an individual to compose their own music, learning how to use the keyboard to maximum effect.

The Assessment

Their assessment will be based on a performance of their work and a listening exercise. Year 8 students will also have a short written test, testing them on general music skills and the following topics covered this year:

- Music notation
- Identifying instruments
- Rhythm
- The Elements of Music
- Gamelan
- Ground Bass
- Blues
- Film Music

Your child should revise by:

- Using YouTube, where possible, to check their recognition of the sounds of instruments.
- Revising their knowledge of the elements of music including naming notes.
- Practicing performing their pieces.

You can help by:

- Testing them on recognising instrument sounds and different genres of music.
- Testing them on note names and values
- Ensure they have finished their composition.



Subject: ICT

How your child will be assessed:

The assessment for Year 8 will focus upon the use of drag and click coding blocks. Students will be using scratch to create a wide variety of interactive media projects – animations, stories, games, and more – and share those projects with peers. Students will learn basic python coding covering sequencing and selection as well as using Microsoft Office application.



Topics covered:

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

- Programming – drag and click block coding
- Objects / Events / Sprites / Actions
- Computer game analysis
- Computer game design
- Python coding
- Microsoft Office applications

Assessment will take 50 minutes and will be taken in class

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 research key areas of computer systems and how the components work

- Encourage them to read around the subject of Computer Science either via the internet or from newspaper articles. The BBC technology homepage is a good example.
- Encourage them to consider the various ways in which ICT and Computer Science is used in society.
- Where possible – allow them to try coding at home via e.g. “Codecademy” or “Scratch” or other freely available tools.
- BBC bitesize KS3

