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**THE HART
SCHOOL**
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SCU/SLE

24 May 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

Year 9 Summer Assessments and Options Update

Thank you for your patience with regards to the Key Stage 4 options that your child has chosen to take. We are still in the process of finalising the groups, to ensure that the process is fair and that as many students are allocated their first choices as possible. We will be in a position to confirm these after the half term break.

As part of our ongoing programme of assessment, your child will be sitting internally set end-of-year assessments in a number of subjects.

The assessment period commences on Monday 10th June and will last for approximately 2 weeks. A copy of your child's assessment timetable will be handed out to the students during tutor time this week and is included at the end of this letter. The majority of the assessments will take place in the first week, with all students sitting a particular subject's assessment at the same time, this will be instead of their usual lesson that period. The exceptions to this are Computer Science and Music exams. These will take place in computer science or music lessons during the main first assessment week or the week after, their teachers will advise pupils directly of when these will be. When students do not have an assessment, they will have normal lessons as per their usual timetable.

These assessments enable students to consolidate the skills and content that they have covered this year and to demonstrate their progress. They are also hugely beneficial in getting all our students used to the formalities, rules and processes of the external examinations that they will have to sit when they reach year 11.

It is vital that the students prepare fully for these assessments in order to provide us with as accurate information as possible with regards to their progress, in order to support teachers in being able to identify students who may benefit from additional intervention; those that require extra challenge; and it can also be used to inform class setting where appropriate. For Year 9 students it can be a particularly useful starting point as the students embark upon their GCSEs.

Teachers will be sharing with students what content and skills they will need to be revising and will be providing them with revision materials to support their preparation. Where appropriate these will be available for reference on the school website in the [KS3 Revision HUB](#), this is also where parents can also find advice on revision well-bring, techniques along with other support strategies to help you child.



Students will be informed around the expectations surrounding these assessments and we would be grateful if you check that your child knows when and where their assessments are taking place.

Top Tips for students to revise effectively:

Know which subject exams they have on which dates.
Plan a revision timetable – but don't overload, focus on no more than 2 subjects on a school night and 4 / 5 subjects over the weekend.
Plan for breaks whilst revising – aim to have a 5-to-10-minute break for each hour of revision.
Try to avoid any distractions where possible - Find a good space, and turn technology off (unless specifically used for revision such as Sparx Maths).
Refer to revision advice provided by their subject teachers and on the Hart Website here .
Create revision cards and test yourself or as a parent/carer to test you.
Create Mind Maps, list key words and their definitions.
Remember to not focus on what you can do, but review topics you are the least confident with.
Any finally remember do not panic, just try your best, we ask nothing more.

If you have any questions regarding these end of year assessments, please do not hesitate to contact either the head of year katie.trigg@hartschool.org.uk or subject teachers if it relates to a particular subject.

Yours sincerely

Simon Curzon
Assistant Principal – Data and Assessment



Year 9 Assessment Week Schedule

	Monday 10th Jun	Tuesday 11th Jun	Wednesday 12th Jun	Thursday 13th Jun	Friday 14th Jun
P1	Maths	Geography	History	Normal Lessons*	Normal Lessons*
P2	Normal Lessons*	Normal Lessons*	Normal Lessons*	DT	Physics
P3	Normal Lessons*	Normal Lessons*	Chemistry	English	Normal Lessons*
P4	Biology	English	Normal Lessons*	Normal Lessons*	Art
P5	Spanish	PE	Drama	Maths	Normal Lessons*

***Music and IT assessments will be taking place during your normal music or IT lessons either in assessment week or the week after – your teachers will advise which day.**