Upton-by-Chester High School

Year 9 Assessment
Half-term 2
Pre-options Assessment
2nd November – 13th November 2026

'Learning to shape the future'

The purpose of assessment through KS3 is to identify how learners are progressing and to identify gaps in knowledge and understanding. This information is powerful to learners and teachers. This informs future teaching and learning as we look to address any areas of fragile knowledge and understanding.

It is important that learners understand their performance in these assessments and will help us determine their suitability for some GCSE or BTEC qualifications.

Preparing for these assessments effectively is an important part of the learning process. Assessments will cover both most recent content and content covered across the key stage in each subject.

Assessment windows give learners the opportunity to develop strategies that will help them in their future, for example for the GCSE examinations at KS4.

Contacts:

Please contact us if you have any queries or require further information.

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Important dates:

Pre-options Assessment	End of Year Assessment
2nd November to 13th November	3rd May to 14th May

Year 9 Pre-options Assessments Half-Term 2

Details for all assessments, in half term 2, for each subject are in the table below.

	Assessment topics / subjects / units covered Half-term 1.	**Assessment topics / subjects / units covered across the Key Stage**	**Suggested preparation materials / links**
Art	Learner sketchbook/ presentation sheets should be neatly presented and annotated thoroughly.	Assessment will be based on the 4 core principles; Research, Experimentation, Observation and Making. Learners will be marked against all four core principles based on progress of work so far.	Learners should make sure that all homework and classwork has been completed and presented neatly. Learners will receive feedback which they are expected to act upon. Continue to practise formal elements.
Computer Science	Unit 1 Data Representation and Unit 2 Python Programming	Spreadsheets and Computer Systems	All material will be in Google Classroom
Drama	A peer assessment based on a short performance of scenes from Stone Cold		Google Classroom has all the required materials.
DT - Fashion & Textiles	Identify and analyse decorative techniques and assess the suitability of different materials, with a focus on accuracy of construction and effective use of colour techniques.	Development of practical techniques	Use booklets from lesson to retrieve past skills and knowledge

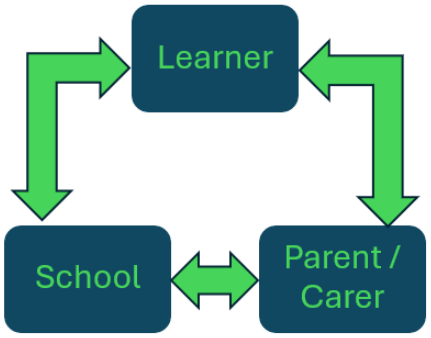
DT - Product Design	Iconic design - Drawing techniques - Sustainability	Health & Safety - Tools and equipment - Materials - CAD CAM	Google Classroom - all resources will be posted by the class teacher.
English	Reading, analytical and creative writing tasks based on Journey's End.		All resources will be posted on Google Classroom so learners should review these. Learners should ensure all classwork is completed and knowledge organiser is utilised.
Food	Practical Food Assessment -Bread Making- functional properties of ingredients used in bread making , the process of bread making, products equipment & techniques. Google Classroom & Food a Fact of Life	Hygiene & safety, functions of ingredients, practical skills	Google Classroom, Food a fact of life website, knowledge organisers on Google Classroom
Geography	Bali unit of work.	Africa and Russia from Year 8 Development.	Google Classroom - all resources will be posted by the class teacher.
History	How similar were dictatorships?	A range of topics from year 7, 8 and 9 will be used in the multi choice section. Many of these have been referred to within the lesson or homework booklet or build on skills common throughout the units	Revision will be posted by class teacher to Show My Homework (Satchel One)

Mathematics	Module A - Number & Probability	Ratio, expanding and factorising, angle facts, rounding & estimation.	Revision lists including SPARX codes will be posted on Show My Homework (Satchel One).
MFL French & Spanish	Where you live - local area	Topics from all of KS3: Free Time (Sports), School, Food & Drink, Environment	Revision will be posted by the class teacher to Show My Homework (Satchel One).
Performing Arts Music / Musical Theatre	Performance of a composition OR practical performance. This will take the form of a peer assessment during lessons.		Learners will prepare during lessons
Physical Education	Theory PE: Fitness and Training Components of Fitness Testing Methods of training Warm ups and cool downs		Focus on Theory Lesson Content shared through Google Classroom which includes a revision KVO linked to the assessment.
RS core	Religion and Identity- Artificial Intelligence Assessment & the Holocaust	Artificial Intelligence, Equality, Holocaust , Human & Religious Identity.	Google Classroom. Class notes https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FE8O52jzJQ

Biology	Plants	Reproduction Digestive System Cells Photosynthesis Inheritance Scientific Method	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z4882hv KVOs and other supporting material will be posted onto Show My Homework (Satchel One). Sparx Science homework - recall and retrieval practise
Chemistry	Chemical Reactions	Particle Theory Separating substances Acids Periodic Table Scientific Method	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/znxtyrd KVOs and other supporting material will be posted onto Show My Homework (Satchel One). Sparx Science homework - recall and retrieval practise
Physics	Electricity	Forces Motion Waves Scientific Method Including data analysis	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh2xsbk KVOs and other supporting material will be posted onto Show My Homework (Satchel One). Sparx Science homework - recall and retrieval practise

What is My Role as a Parent/Carer?

Success in assessments is a team effort, which involves you, the school, and learners working together and so there are many things you can do to support learners at home.



There is no correct way to parent learners when preparing for assessments. Choose the approaches that work best for you, your family, and your situation. Below are a few suggestions you may wish to trial.

- **Talk** to your child about their upcoming assessments.
- If you are in doubt about anything to do with the assessments contact iqbald@uptonhigh.co.uk who will pass your query to the relevant member of staff.
- Try to provide a **quiet space** for learners to complete homework/revision.
- Learners should put their mobile phone in another room when completing homework/revision. Even phones 'on silent' cause distraction.
- We recommend approximately **20-30 minute sessions** on a **targeted topic** with short breaks in between starting the next session.
- Ensure that learners have all the required textbooks, revision guides and resources ready for revision.
- Ensure learners **get enough sleep**. Regular bedtimes, and wake times, will benefit learners.
- Set learners' challenges. For example, you could ask them to revise a short topic; using the revision resources, you could then 'test' them on what they have just revised.
- Encourage them to **exercise**.
- Encourage them to drink lots of water.
- Think about whether rewards and incentives would work for your child.
- Stay positive. Look for ways in which you can help them to believe in themselves by reminding them of the successes they have had. It will help if they focus on the short-term task of revising rather than thinking about the final results.
- Remind learners that the **purpose of assessments is to practise**, and to inform their teacher of what they do and do not know. We can then work together to improve their performance.

To help:

- Teachers will set homework tasks that will count towards preparation/revision for the assessment. **Encourage learners to complete and hand in all homework** on time. All homework can be monitored by the Show My Homework (Satchel One) App
- Learners should avoid 'just' reading a revision guide. The trick is to **do something with what has been read**. For example: summarise in their own words, draw and label diagrams, get someone to test them.
- Encourage them to **use the electronic platforms** that the school has to offer. Sparx Maths, QUIZLET, Seneca learning, Educake- to name a few!
- Encourage attendance at afterschool revision sessions available to learners.