HARTFORD
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
HIGH SCHOOL

Year 9 Assessment Preparation

Monday 23rd November to Friday 4th December 2026

Student Name: _____

Ready, Revise, Together

Information, advice and guidance for students, parents and carers to support success in assessments

A Message from your Head of Year

Dear Year 9 Students,

It is important to not panic about the upcoming assessments, but to view them as an opportunity to demonstrate your learning from the start of Year 9.

I am extremely proud to be your head of year, but now is the time for you to showcase your Achieving HART value, by making sure you are Ready for these exams.

It is really important that you take the time to carefully prepare for these assessments, to give yourself the best opportunity to succeed and achieve your potential, ready for considering your options later this year when you pick your future GCSEs.

This booklet will provide you with resources and tips for how to succeed in your exams, but it is important to remember that you need to manage your time effectively, try your best, and ask for help if you need it. Teachers and support staff are here to help you, and we want the best outcomes for you. If you do not ask, you will never know!

If thinks do not go to plan, it is important to reflect, to support one another, and to look at how to improve.

I wish you all the best of luck in these exams, make sure you make yourself, your parents or carers and your tutors proud of your efforts!

Mr Farrall
Head of Year 9

Preparing for your assessments



Ensure you have a quiet space to work

This enhances concentration, improves information retention, and reduces stress. By minimizing distractions, a quiet environment allows the brain to focus on learning, leading to better academic performance and the development of long-term study habits.



Revision Timetable

Plan a revision timetable. Break down your revision into manageable chunks and allocate specific times for each subject. If you have commitments like sports etc then build these in and plan around them.



Remove Distractions

Make sure your mobile phone is out of sight and out of mind so that you can concentrate fully on your revision.



Be Organised

Make sure you have all of your revision resources to hand so you can use your time effectively to revise rather than wasting time looking for stationery and notes, etc.



Stay Healthy

Eat a balanced diet to keep your energy levels up. Exercise regularly as this is good for reducing stress and improving concentration. Sleep well (7-8 hours a night) to ensure your brain is well rested.



Seek Help

If you're struggling with a particular topic, don't hesitate to ask teachers, friends, or family for help.



Stay Positive

Break your revision into small, manageable tasks and reward yourself when you achieve them.

My Exam Timetable

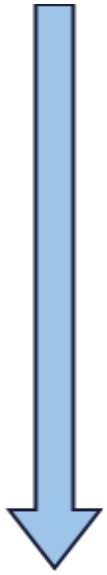
You need to take responsibility for asking your teachers when your assessments are so you can record the dates in your exam timetable below:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Lesson 1					
Lesson 2					
Lesson 3					
Lesson 4					
Lesson 5					

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Lesson 1					
Lesson 2					
Lesson 3					
Lesson 4					
Lesson 5					

Revision Techniques

Low Cognitive Demand



High Cognitive Demand

Flash Cards	Useful for focusing on simple recall of facts, key words and definitions.
Revision Clocks	Useful for structuring and summarising content around a topic.
Cornell Note Taking	Useful for summarising and identifying key ideas, using your class notes, revision guides or information on reliable websites.
Mind-maps	Useful for organising, connecting and synthesising ideas across a topic.
Self Quizzing	Useful for active retrieval of information from memory without prompts and strengthening recall and understanding.
Practice Exam Questions/Papers	Useful for developing application, analysis and evaluation of knowledge in unfamiliar contexts. Develops real exam thinking and problem-solving.

Weekly Revision Planner

Check list of things to do:

- Make a list of all your subjects
- Add any non-school commitments for the week e.g. leisure activities, going out, seeing friends and time to relax, into your weekly revision planner
- Write into your revision planner when you are going to revise each subject that week
- Try to plan 40 minutes revising, 10 minutes testing, 10 minutes resting, or
- 20 minutes revising, 5 minutes testing, 5 minutes resting
- Tick off when you have completed each subject

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	TIME	Saturday	Sunday

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	TIME	Saturday	Sunday

Topic Lists

The Autumn assessments will take place from Monday 23 to Thursday 26 November. A detailed timetable showing when each in-class assessment will take place will be shared with you and your child the week before the assessment period. Students can use this information to create their own exam timetable in this booklet.

During the half terms where students have formal assessments, we launch our 'Ready, Revise, Together' initiative. This initiative is designed to encourage students to proactively manage their own study habits, moving away from last-minute cramming and building strong revision skills and good habits over time. Students will be explicitly taught revision strategies in their lessons which they should then use to revise independently at home. This booklet contains revision support, revision lists and a revision timetable template for students to use to plan their revision.

These assessments are a valuable tool for both teachers and students. They have been carefully designed to evaluate your child's understanding of the curriculum content covered so far and to consolidate their knowledge. The assessments also identify areas of strength and highlight areas that may require additional focus.

This booklet is designed to help parents, carers, and students plan and prepare for the upcoming assessments. Please note that the topic lists provided are not exhaustive; tests will assess both recent classwork and prior learning from previous years.

The results are used to inform the Autumn CRU Grade.

There will be no formal Autumn assessment for DT and PE; students will be graded by ongoing assessments. For Dance, Drama and Music, students will complete a portfolio of work across the term and an assessment mark out of 39 will be awarded.

Kate Booth
Assistant Headteacher

English Language & English Literature

Language

Descriptive Fiction Writing:

- Settings
- Pathetic Fallacy
- Simile
- Metaphor
- Vocabulary (see vocab list)

Speculative Fiction:

- Perdido Street Station
- Fahrenheit 451
- 1984
- Blade Runner

Literature

Pigeon English

- Characters (Harrison, Julius, Auntie Sonia, X-Fire)
- Plot
- Themes (Violence, Gang Culture, Innocence, Freedom)
- Analytical paragraph writing

Mathematics

Band A (Non-Calculator):

- Four Operations with Fractions
- Product of Prime Factors
- Estimation
- Percentages of an Amount
- Truncation and Error Intervals
- LCM and HCF
- Standard Form
- Index Laws
- Multiplying and Dividing Decimals
- Reverse Percentages
- Percentage Change
- Compound Interest

Band B (Non-Calculator):

- Rounding
- Number Properties, eg. squares, cubes, primes, etc
- Powers and Roots
- Estimation
- Four Operations with Negative Numbers
- LCM and HCF
- FDP Equivalence
- Four Operations with Fractions
- Product of Prime Factors
- Standard Form
- Percentages of an Amount
- Multiplying Decimals
- Percentage Increase/Decrease

Religious Studies

- Prejudice and discrimination
- Christian attitudes to poverty
- Faith in the community
- The worldwide church

Science

- SP1 - Motion
- SP2 – Forces & Motion
- SC1 – States of Matter
- SC2 – Mixtures & Separation Techniques

Art

- Drawing – features of the face
- A5 self-portrait drawing
- Research based on a selected artist
- Final A3 portrait based on the art style selected

Design Technology

Within the subject of Design Technology students complete 3 different projects through the academic year. Each project is 12 lessons in length and each project reflects the GCSE options we have within the department: Design Technology, Engineering and Food.

Students are on a carousel where they move between teachers who deliver their specialist project.

Assessment within Design Technology happens within each project. Each project will allow staff to input 2 assessment scores: 1 theory (end of unit examination), 1 practical. (final assessed model)

The metals awarded within Design Technology will be a calculation based on students' performance in all project areas using all assessment scores.

Geography

- Polar Regions: location, climate, the Antarctic Treaty, threats in Antarctica – tourism and climate change, threats and opportunities in the Arctic
- Climate change - evidence of climate change and natural and human causes of climate change

History

How did the First World War change the nature of warfare?

- Causes of the First World War (militarism, alliances, imperialism and nationalism)
- Expectations of warfare in 1914
- Development of a stalemate on the Western Front
- Trench warfare
- Weapons of WWI
- Warfare beyond the trenches (Gallipoli, sinking of the Lusitania, Battle of Jutland)
- Role of civilians in the First World War
- Causes of the end of the First World War

Information Technology

- Scams
- Online safety
- Photo editing techniques
- Reliable sources for research
- Fake news
- Fake images

PE

Assessment will take place during practical lessons in

- Fitness
- Basketball
- Netball
- Football

Spanish

Vocabulary

- My Studies
- Jobs
- Future Job Plans
- Future Study Plans
- Future Living Plans

Grammar

- Present Tense
- Past Tense
- Future Tense
- Adjectival Agreement
- Opinions

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