

30 April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**End of Year Common Assessment Tasks (CATs) for Years 7, 8 and 9
Monday 3 June to Friday 14 June**

The end of year Common Assessment Tasks (CATs) will take place in normal, timetabled lesson time **between Monday 3 June and Friday 14 June 2024**. Individual class teachers will inform students of the exact date and lesson for each assessment nearer the time.

This is the final, formal assessment of the year. It gives students the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learnt in each subject over the year.

Subject teachers will guide your child through the process. Lesson time will be used to tell students what they can expect in each CAT and how long it will be. In the run up to the CAT, home learning will be focused on specific revision activities. All resources will be available for students on Showbie.

Students will know what topics and skills will be tested in each assessment and will be advised how best to prepare.

To help you to support your child at home we have attached a short guide which outlines the key guidance that students are given in school.

If you have any further questions please contact the relevant [Year Manager](#).

Good luck to all.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Moat
Associate Headteacher

Effective End of Year CAT Preparation in 3 Steps

Strengthen your memory:

To help keep information in, practise getting information out.

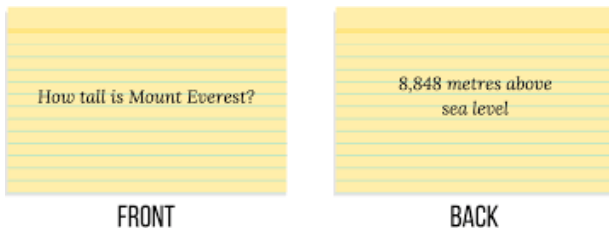
Step 1



Start with your information page, produced from memory and then developed by looking at your exercise book and showbie

- Use a blank sheet of paper to add everything you can think of that is relevant to a topic you have chosen from your studies this year.
- Organise the information in any way which is best for you. For example, a mind map connecting key words or a spider diagram with the topic in the middle, lists.
- When you have added everything, you can to your information sheet, look up the topic in your exercise book and in showbie. Add anything that you have missed, ideally in a different colour.

Step 2



Make some questions and answer flashcards on paper (questions on the front and answers on the back) or create a Quizlet.

Use your memory retrieval sheet to help you make flashcards/quizlet.

Step 3



Test yourself or get a friend or family member to test you! Try Seneca, KS3 Bitesize, Quizlet, Educake, or Sparx Maths as well as Socrative quizzes available in your Showbie folders.

ENGLISH

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	This will test your reading comprehension and language analysis skills of fiction texts.
Units/topics that should be revised:	<p>Read over the plan you have written in lesson and make sure that you are confident with remembering the points you wish to make.</p> <p>Practise the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• identifying language features accurately• summarising the differences/similarities between characters• selecting evidence (quotations)• comparing how each character is presented. <p>You could make sure you are confident with the choices of words in a text (such as adjectives, adverbs, nouns, verbs, imagery, sensory language, similes, metaphors and any other techniques you have been taught).</p> <p>Can you explain how these words make the reader feel?</p> <p>Make sure you know how you will structure your essay-style response so that you are comparing the similarities and differences between the two characters. The planning work explains how to do this.</p> <p>Learn your plan, you will not be allowed to have it with you in the assessment!</p>
Structure of CAT	45-minute CAT Compare how Dickens and Pullman present the characters of Miss Havisham and Mrs Holland in two extracts.
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<p>Your teacher may provide you with additional practice resources.</p> <p>Read other stories or extracts written by Charles Dickens to make you more familiar with the Victorian vocabulary. You could for example, read/watch more of Great Expectations, outside of the extracts you have studied in lessons.</p> <p>Revise your knowledge and understanding of what Victorian England was like, particularly how the poor and lower classes were treated.</p> <p>Look in your exercise book for advice on how to answer the questions.</p>

MATHS

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	To assess your understanding of the topics taught so far this year, and in preceding years.
Units/topics that should be revised:	<p>NUMBER – Multiples/Factors, Prime Factors, Standard Form, Calculate with Fractions, Decimals and Approximation, Ratio and Proportion</p> <p>RATIO AND PROPORTION – Divide in a ratio, Increase/Decrease by percentages, simple interest, using proportion to solve problems</p> <p>ALGEBRA – Expanding Brackets, Using Formulae and Solving Equations, Constructing Graphs of Linear Equations, Gradient and Intercepts</p> <p>SHAPE AND SPACE –Area and Surface area, Area and Circumference of circles, Transformations, Pythagoras, Volume of prisms, Missing angles on parallel lines</p> <p>PROBABILITY – Simple probability, Probability scales, Venn diagrams, Sample spaces</p>
Structure of CAT	<p>Two papers – one non-calculator, one calculator</p> <p>Each paper will take one lesson to complete.</p>
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<p>Your books and your Showbie folder</p> <p>Showbie – check you progress tracker folders for CAT RAGs that identified stronger/weaker areas, and use the MyMaths links. Curriculum overviews and skills checks on Showbie.</p> <p>KS3 Maths BBC Bitesize - https://www.bbc.com/education/subjects/zqhs34j</p> <p>Sparx Maths – https://www.sparxmaths.uk/</p> <p>Corbett Maths – https://corbettmaths.com/contents/</p>

SCIENCE

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	To test understanding of the Year 8 science course as a whole. As well as your prior knowledge from Year 7.
Units/topics that should be revised:	<p>Atoms and Elements The difference between atoms and molecules and elements and compounds. The structure of the atom.</p> <p>Heating and Cooling Conduction, convection and radiation. Methods to reduce heat loss. The particle model.</p> <p>Light Types of waves and key wave terms. Light waves, reflection, refraction and the use of lenses. How we see colours. The human eye.</p> <p>Sound Sound waves, the speed of sound and human hearing.</p> <p>Pressure and Density Pressure calculations. Pressure in liquids, gases and the atmosphere.</p> <p>Gaseous Exchange Structure and function of the lungs. Asthma, smoking and lung disease.</p> <p>Healthy Living Healthy eating and diet. The effects of alcohol and drugs.</p> <p>Respiration Aerobic and anaerobic respiration.</p> <p>Moments Moments and levers. Calculating moments. Balancing and using moments.</p> <p>Types of Reaction Chemical reactions to include combustion and thermal decomposition. Balancing chemical equations and the conservation of mass.</p> <p>Photosynthesis Plant cells and the structure of a leaf. Factors affecting the rate of Photosynthesis.</p>
Structure of CAT	Two 40 minute papers, to be sat in science lessons.
Useful revision resources and where to find them	Student's exercise books. Student's science Showbie folders (one per teacher). BBC Bitesize Key Stage 3 Science (website). https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p Educake self-set questions, multiple choice by topic. https://my.educake.co.uk/

FRENCH

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	French Writing and Translation Skills
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family• Free time / hobbies• Going out / arranging to go out• Food and drink• Holidays• Jobs• TV shows / films• Weather <p><u>Note particularly the skills of:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• giving justified opinions• extending sentences with connectives and prepositions• using a broad range of qualifiers, adjectives and time phrases• using three tenses accurately: past tense (j'ai joué), present tense (je joue) and future tense (je vais jouer)• describe a photo
Structure of CAT	There will be various short answer listening and reading tasks, a photo to describe, followed by some sentences to translate into French.
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn all vocabulary from your "Word a Day" lists• Revise your notes in your exercise book and on Showbie• Practise using Quizlet (www.quizlet.com). The following sets are particularly suitable: <p>HGS Year 8 French Word a day</p> <p>https://quizlet.com/294985199/hgs-year-8-french-word-a-day-flash-cards/?new</p> <p>Past tense: https://quizlet.com/170371493/y8-french-past-tense-flash-cards/</p> <p>Future tense: https://quizlet.com/250469394/french-near-future-tense-flash-cards/</p>

GERMAN

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	German Listening, Reading and Translation Skills
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Identification - Saying your name, age, birthday• Family- physical descriptions, personalities• School• Hobbies and Interests• Daily Routine (including telling the time)• Helping at Home• Out and about (transport and activities)• Weather• Town and environment• Describing a photo• Giving justified opinions• Extending sentences with connectives• Using a broad range of vocabulary including qualifiers, adjectives, opinions and time phrases• Using the present tense, future tense and the past tense accurately
Structure of CAT	There will be various short answer listening and reading tasks, a photo to describe, followed by some sentences to translate into German.
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn all vocabulary from your "Word a Day" lists (also on quizlet - https://quizlet.com/gb/695922449/cumulative-word-a-day-y8-german-wk-1-32-flash-cards/)• Revise your notes in your exercise book and on Showbie.• Look again at the lessons in Showbie, which are all ordered by topic, and check you still understand the content (ask your teacher if there is anything you want to clarify). As part of this, revisiting wordwalls and quizlets within those lesson slides in Showbie will also be useful.

SPANISH

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	Spanish Listening, Reading and Translation Skills
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Identification - Saying your name, age, birthday, interests• Food• Holidays• Family-physical descriptions, personalities, jobs, interests• Town• Clothes• Describe a photo• giving justified opinions• extending sentences with connectives and prepositions• using a broad range of vocabulary including qualifiers, adjectives, opinions and time phrases• using the present tense, future tense and the past tense accurately
Structure of CAT	There will be various short answer listening and reading tasks, a photo to describe, followed by some sentences to translate into Spanish.
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look again at the lessons in Showbie, which are all ordered by topic, and check you still understand the content (ask your teacher if there is anything you want to clarify). As part of this, revisiting Wordwalls and Quizlets within those lesson slides in Showbie will also be useful.• Learn all vocabulary from your “Word a Day” lists• Practise using Quizlet (www.quizlet.com). The following sets will be particularly useful: https://quizlet.com/295289497/hgs-year-8-spanish-revision-top-200-flash-cards/ https://quizlet.com/_bceygb?x=1jqt&i=8ixe6

GEOGRAPHY

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	To assess understanding of some of the key topics studied throughout Year 8.
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topic 2 - Hazardous Tectonics• Topic 3 - Deserted World• Topic 4 - Development• Topic 5 - Sustainable Resources
How will you be examined? Structure of the exam/form of exam	<p>Section 1: Short written answers on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topic 2 - Hazardous Tectonics• Topic 3 - Deserted World• Topic 4 - Development• Topic 5 - Sustainable Resources <p>These questions include definitions, descriptions, diagram labelling, comprehension questions, and explaining effects.</p> <p>Section 2: Level marked written answer using figures and knowledge on the Sustainable Resources topic.</p>
Useful revision resources and where to find them	Revision booklet for the topic is saved on Showbie.

HISTORY

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	To assess your knowledge and understanding of changing ideas and the shifting balance of power from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Witchcraft in Europe and North America• The growth of the British Empire in the Caribbean, India and Australia• Transatlantic Slave Trade
Structure of CAT	Your assessment will be 40 minutes long and consist of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A long-term memory check covering topics from across Year 8 (Witchcraft, the British Empire and the Transatlantic Slave Trade)2. One question based on a source3. One question based on knowledge4. One longer question that will require you to write two paragraphs.
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. You should start off by looking at the work in your classbook and on Showbie from your lessons. This will be particularly useful for Witchcraft and the Transatlantic Slave Trade where online resources are not as readily available. You also created revision resources at the end of each topic and these will be useful for this revision.2. BBC Bitesize - The Early British Empire3. BBC Bitesize - The First British Empire4. BBC Bitesize - The Later British Empire <p>Challenge</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. The National Archives - The British Empire <p>There are a number of different activities that you can do to help you to prepare for this assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Make information stick by repeating it<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ ask someone at home or a friend to test you on key information✓ create a Quizlet of information and test yourself – repeat until you know it!✓ Learn the answers to all 20 questions on each of your previous Long-Term Memory Checks✓ Create a big mind map for each topic in your own words and then practice writing it out again from memory✓ Make your own Kahoot for each topic and then test yourself✓ Create a timeline of key dates and events for each topic to help you learn the chronology of each topic <p>Things that might feel like revision, but will not help you revise history:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Reading through your notes – <i>this is passive and does not help you to remember anything</i>✗ Highlighting key words in your notes and then doing nothing with that information✗ Copying out your notes – works well for short term retention of information, will not aid you in a test where you need to use your memory

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	Hinduism/Buddhism/Sikhism
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hinduism: Karma, Samsara, Trimurti • Buddhism: 5 Moral Precepts, life of the Buddha • Sikhism: The Khalsa, The 5Ks, Gurdwara, Guru Granth Sahib, Sewa (selfless-service)
Structure of CAT	<p>12 short answer knowledge questions. 2 questions requiring developed points. One extended answer requiring arguments for and against, religious responses and a conclusion.</p> <p>The exam will take place during a lesson.</p>
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<p>A revision lesson will be produced and delivered. Revision materials will be created and shared on Showbie.</p> <p>Details of the exam will be shared in lessons and placed on Arbor.</p>

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Revision Outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	The questions relate to the projects you have made in design technology during the year.
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know the design methods, names of the tools, materials and processes that you have used in design technology projects• Identify, explain and use the inspiration of a past designer/ design movement• Sketch initial ideas to show how others inspiration can be added to your designs.• Produce a flowchart to show the manufacture of your design including quality checks.
Structure of CAT	Multiple Choice
Useful revision resources and where to find them	<p><i>For the year 8 DT end of year test you will need:</i></p> <p>A charged iPad</p>

FOOD AND NUTRITION

Revision outline for Year 8

Purpose/focus of test:	To establish learning of key principles throughout the course.
Units/topics that should be revised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food Safety: Safe working in the food room.• Nutrition: Healthy eating in line with the Eatwell Guide, Energy Balance and Healthy Hydration.• Food Preparation skills – skills and Ingredients used to make the recipes this academic year.• Food Provenance – where different foods come from.• Food Choice – understanding the special dietary requirements of certain individuals and how to adapt meals to make them healthier.
Structure of CAT	Multiple choice questions
Useful revision resources and where to find them	Showbie > Assessment > KS3 Crucial Learning Showbie > Assessment > Revision Showbie > Assessment > Y8 Tracker Food a fact of life website – the official site for the British Nutrition foundation. http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/