

RE: GL Assessments – English, Mathematics and Science progress tests

Dear Parent/Guardian

As part of our assessment programme, Year 7 students will sit a series of short progress tests in English, Mathematics and Science from **Tuesday 16th September until Thursday 18th September**.

Each test is standardised against national benchmarks using the GL Assessment platform.

The purpose of the tests is to provide each year team with information to support students' progress this year. This includes:

- Future curriculum planning and sequencing
- Adjustments to teaching, learning and assessments
- KS4 target setting
- To help identify any additional support individual students may need

The Progress Test in English measures students' knowledge, understanding and application of technical English skills (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and reading comprehension, using age-appropriate fiction and information texts.

The Progress Test in Maths measures students' mathematical skills and knowledge in areas such as number, shape, data handling and algebra, as well as their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

The Progress Test in Science measures students' knowledge and understanding of science, as well as their application of this knowledge and understanding. Their ability to work scientifically is also assessed.

These tests will be taking place in the academy's Main Hall under exam conditions so that all students are able to complete them in a formal, controlled environment. It is important that students are present for these tests. Any student absent on these days, will be scheduled to sit the tests on a 'catch-up' day later this term.

The schedule for these tests can be found on the reverse of this letter:

Day	Periods 1 and 2	Periods 3 and 4
Tuesday 16th Sept	Y Band English	X Band English
Wednesday 17th Sept	X Band Maths	Y Band Maths
Thursday 18th Sept	X Band Science	Y Band Science

The English and Maths tests both last around 1 hour and 30 minutes. The Science test is 1 hour long.

I would like to stress that this is an assessment of ability and not attainment, so no pre-learning or preparation is necessary.

Students should not feel worried about taking the Progress Tests as prior knowledge is not required to complete it. The results will be used together with our internal assessment practices, to inform teachers about the strengths and development areas of each student.

I will be holding an online Parents' Forum on this Thursday, 11th September at 5.30pm. During this session, I will share examples of what each tests looks like. The link to this Parents' Forum can be found [here](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have about the contents of this letter. I would like to thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Sorrento



Director of Curriculum, Data, Exams and Assessment