End of year assessments

Year 9

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you about our KS3 assessment period that is starting from 7th May until 7th June.

As part of our curriculum work over the last two years, departments have been re-designing their curricula. As part of this work, departments have been looking at the most useful ways to assess student progress in their subjects over time to help inform the feedback and termly reporting we make during the year to students and families. Details of these assessments have been shared throughout the year with students in their Learning Journeys which are provided to all students in all subjects. We have also made these available to parents and families on our school website.

As part of the assessment procedures, some departments have planned for students in KS3 to have an end of year exam which will take place during this four week assessment period. These exams will take into account a range of knowledge and skills acquired across the year. All other subjects will still continue to assess the progress of students in their subject in line with those planned assessments on students' Learning Journeys and so will not be having a specific end of year assessment.

Details of all assessments, including these end of year assessments, are shared with all students. We are providing details to parents of these end of year assessments below as they are not provided in Learning Journeys so that you can support your child in preparing for these. Details are provided below:

Subject	Topics to be included in end of year
	assessment
English	This will consist of two papers:
	Literature - poetry comparison, comparing poems already studied (to follow the same format as their Poetry Assessment earlier in the year).
	Language - analysing how language is used in an unseen text; stepped questions focusing on identifying explicit and implicit information, summarising and making inferences, and analysing how a writer uses methods for effects.

Matha	This will consist of two papers; one calculator
Maths	This will consist of two papers: one calculator
	paper and one non-calculator paper.
	The papers will be based on GCSE style questions
	with 10 marks of skills questions (similar to end of
	unit assessments) covering all content learnt in
	year 9 up to Quadratics. All green learning sheets
	up to quadratics to be tested.
French	This will consist of three separate exam papers.
	All topics from Year 9 Term 1a-2b will be
	covered and a focus on 3 skills (Listening,
	Reading and Writing) for single linguists and 2
	skills for dual linguists
Spanish	This will consist of three separate exam papers.
Spanish	The same consists of an ecospanate chain papers.
	All topics from Year 9 Term 1a-2b will be covered
	and a focus on 3 skills(Listening, Reading and
	Writing) for single linguists and 2 skills for dual
	linguists
Geography	This will consist of one paper.
	All Learning Journeys covered in Year 9 to date
	will be covered in this test.
	These will include:
	➤ How dangerous is our planet?
	➤ Why are some places richer than others?
History	This will consist of one paper.
	All Learning Journeys covered in Year 9 to date
	will be covered in this test.
	will be covered in this test.
	These will include:
	➤ Industrial Revolution
	➤ Whitechapel murders
	> First World War
D. II	This illustration of the
Religious Studies	This will consist of one paper.
	All
	All Learning Journeys covered in Year 9 to date
	will be covered in this test.
	These will include:
	▶1 section on Humanism
	▶1 section on Judaism

All assessments will happen in class and so dates of these exams will be provided by individual teachers to their classes to match with their timetabled lessons. Students will be asked to write these details in their planners.

Students with specific support arrangements will be given this support during their assessments in the same way they currently do with any other planned assessment.

If you should need any further information for a specific subject, please contact us at lnfor@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk detailing which subject you need support from.

Kind regards

Nick O'Brien

KS3 Deputy Headteacher