

# FAQs

Should you have any concerns about Assessment Cycle 1, here are some frequently asked questions and answers to clarify things.

## WHEN WILL EXAMS TAKE PLACE?

Assessments for Years 7-10 will take place from Tuesday 6th January, to Friday 16th January 2026. Students will complete their assessments during timetabled lessons.

## WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD REVISE?

Google Classroom/Class Charts will be updated with materials and topics to revise. This will also be modelled to students in class, with ILBs (for KS3) used to support revision at home.

## WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT?

Students identified for SEN support will receive 25% extra time during their assessments, facilitated by the classroom teacher or SEN staff as needed.

## WHEN WILL WE FIND OUT THE RESULTS OF THE EXAMS?

All assessment data will be shared with Parents/Carers by the Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February.



## ASSESSMENT CYCLE 1

### KEY INFORMATION



## Year 7-10 Assessment Cycle 1 Information

This document contains information on the type of assessment and coverage in each subject, how students will be assessed and whether the exam is tiered.

All subjects teachers will update **Class Charts/Google Classroom** with revision materials for students to complete in preparation for their upcoming end of cycle assessments.

If you require further information please find the relevant contact information below.

Best wishes,

Mr Galea - Assistant Headteacher ([galea.k@thenorwoodschool.org](mailto:galea.k@thenorwoodschool.org))

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# YEAR 7 ASSESSMENT CYCLE 1 INFORMATION

Faculty/ subject	Type of Assessment and Coverage	How do students know how they will be assessed?	Are there any differences in assessment for any groups of students (e.g. different papers)
English	2 x 35 minute exam papers covering novel with analytical and comprehensive questions and a creative writing task	Students provided with similar questions and vocabulary list in ILBs as well as a PLC for checking topics, characters and themes	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Maths	1 x 45 mins non calculator exam paper covering all content taught since Sep	Students provided with checklist of revision topics on year 7 maths google classroom as well as SOW. Sparx weekly homework tasks set in line with schemes of work.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Science	2 x 35 min written assessments exam paper covering Y7 so far (cells, particles, motion)	Students provided with checklist of topics. Shared on GC. Revision also within ILB.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
French	1 x reading paper (30mins) 1 x listening paper (30mins) 1 x speaking assessment paper (5m), Topic: Who am I?	The reading exam consists of comprehension questions and translation into English. The listening exam consists of comprehension questions and transcription. The speaking exam consists of a read aloud task followed by questions about themselves. Students will be given an overall percentage score averaging all three component skills..	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Spanish	1 x reading paper (30mins) 1 x listening paper (30mins) 1 x speaking assessment paper (5m), Topic: Who am I?	The reading exam consists of comprehension questions and translation into English. The listening exam consists of comprehension questions and transcription. The speaking exam consists of a read aloud task followed by questions about themselves. Students will be given an overall percentage score averaging all three component skills..	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Geography	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 32 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting same paper
History	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting same paper
RS	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting same paper
Design & Technology (Food, Product Design & Textiles)	Students complete a 9 week rotation in Food, Textiles and Product Design over the course of the year (carousel). Practical assessment(s) based upon the design skills, made products and evaluative skills.	Students are made aware during their lessons what will be assessed, in Product Design and Textiles this will be an ongoing made product and another piece of work. In Food, practical skills are assessed in an 'ongoing' style. Students also complete a food file for theory lessons. An end of unit mark sheet is used to provide feedback.	All students are completing the same projects on a carousel.
Art	Students completed a drawing assessments at the beginning of the year. Students then complete a unit of coursework on Portraiture on which they will be assessed before moving on to longer projects. The assessment will be of their body of practical and written work for assessment objectives AO1, AO2 and AO3.	It is an ongoing "coursework" style system, students are made aware from the beginning. Students will receive an assessment sheet identifying which criteria their evidence meets, which has also been fed into each of the practical workshops they have completed this term.	All students are completing the same projects and assessed in the same way.
PE	A practical assessment is made at the end of each activity block consisting of 10 lessons. This measures skill ability, subject knowledge and evaluation. Data is collected on a spreadsheet with the average score being awarded as a measure during data drops etc.	Pupils will complete a range of exercise drills and games throughout their lessons that will be replicated within the final assessment. Pupils will refer to an AFL card which is activity specific.	No. Each set/group may complete different exercises and competitions within the final assessment but will still follow the same AFL criteria.
Music	Practical Assessment based on skills and topics covered in lessons.	Students are shown Ticker trackers in class which share criteria and progress.	All students are assessed on the same practical class music tasks.
Drama	Practical Assessment based on skills and topics covered in lessons.	Students are shown Ticker trackers in class which share criteria and progress.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
ICT	Online assessment on topic covered this term (game design, e safety, python programming and digital literacy)	Student complete interim assessment which models expectations in real exam	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Dance	Practical Assessment based on skills and topics covered in lessons.	Students are shown Ticker trackers in class which share criteria and progress.	Choreographies are shared but differentiated by different members of staff so there may be slight differences in the performance. But skills will be the same.

# YEAR 8 ASSESSMENT CYCLE 1 INFORMATION

Faculty/subject	Type of Assessment and Coverage	How do students know how they will be assessed?	Are there any differences in assessment for any groups of students (e.g. different papers)
English	2 x 35 minute exam papers covering play with analytical and comprehensive questions and a non-fiction writing task	Students provided with similar questions and vocabulary list in ILBs as well as a PLC for checking topics, characters and themes	No- all pupils sitting the same paper
Maths	2 x 40 mins exam paper (paper 1 non-calc & paper 2 calc) covering all content taught since Sep with some additional numeracy topics from year 7	Students provided with checklist of revision topics on year 7 maths google classroom as well as SOW. Sparx weekly homework tasks set in line with schemes of work.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Science	2 x 35 min written assessment covering Y8 so far (acids and alkalis, sound, ventilation) plus key concepts from Y7	Students provided with checklist of topics. Shared on GC. Revision also within ILB.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
French	1 x reading paper (30mins) 1 x listening paper (30mins) 1 x speaking assessment paper (5m), Topic: Holidays, festivals, market	The reading exam consists of comprehension questions and translation into English. The listening exam consists of comprehension questions and transcription. The speaking exam consists of a read aloud task followed by a role play task. Students will be given an overall percentage score averaging all three component skills..	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Spanish	1 x reading paper (30mins) 1 x listening paper (30mins) 1 x speaking assessment paper (5m), Topic: Holidays, technology, free time	The reading exam consists of comprehension questions and translation into English. The listening exam consists of comprehension questions and transcription. The speaking exam consists of a read aloud task followed by a conversation task with both prepared and unprepared questions. Students will be given an overall percentage score averaging all three component skills..	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Geography	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
History	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
RS	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting same paper
Art	Students will complete a unit of coursework on which they will be assessed. The assessment will be of their body of practical and written work for assessment objectives AO1, AO2 and AO3. Moving forward in terms 2 & 3 students work on a more sustained projects with the different AO's assessed. Practical coursework style assessment.	It is an ongoing "coursework" style system, students are made aware from the beginning. Students will receive an assessment sheet identifying which criteria their evidence meets, which has also been fed into each of the practical workshops they have completed this term.	All students are completing the same projects and assessed in the same way.
PE	A practical assessment is made at the end of each activity block. This measures skill ability, subject knowledge and evaluation. Data is collected on a spreadsheet with the average score being awarded as a measure during data drops etc.	Pupils will complete a range of exercise drills and games throughout their lessons that will be replicated within the final assessment. Pupils will refer to an AFL card which is activity specific.	No. Each set/group may complete different exercises and competitions within the final assessment but will still follow the same AFL criteria.
Music	Practical Assessment (Spirituals/Blues, Film music and Instrumental skills) based on skills and topics covered in lessons.	Students are shown Ticker trackers in class which share criteria and progress.	All students are assessed on the same practical class music tasks.
Drama	Practical Assessment based on skills and topics covered in lessons.	Students are shown Ticker trackers in class which share criteria and progress.	No, but tasks are differentiated by groupings and or text supplied.
ICT	Online assessment on topic covered this term (game design, website design and python programming)	Student complete interim assessment which models expectations in real exam	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Dance	Practical Assessment based on skills and topics covered in lessons.	Students are shown Ticker trackers in class which share criteria and progress.	Choreographies are shared but differentiated by different members of staff so there may be slight differences in the performance. But skills will be the same.
Design & Technology (Food, Product Design & Textiles)	Students complete a 9 week rotation in Food, Textiles and Product Design over the course of the year (carousel). Practical assessment(s) based upon the design skills, made products and evaluative skills.	Students are made aware during their lessons what will be assessed, in Product Design and Textiles this will be an ongoing made product and another piece of work. In Food, practical skills are assessed in an 'ongoing' style. Students also complete a food file for theory lessons. An end of unit mark sheet is used to provide feedback.	All students are completing the same projects on a carousel.

# YEAR 9 ASSESSMENT CYCLE 1 INFORMATION

Faculty/ subject	Type of Assessment and Coverage	How do students know how they will be assessed?	Are there any differences in assessment for any groups of students (e.g. different papers)
English	AQA Eng Lit style essay on Poetry (40 mins) and AQA Eng Lang style Transactional Writing Task (40 mins)	Made clear in class and students do preparatory reading and writing task as a formative assessment, earlier in the term. Revise key characters, themes and skills prior to the assessment.	No - all pupils sit the same paper.
Maths	2 x 40 mins exam paper (paper 1 non-calc & paper 2 calc) covering all content taught since Sep with some additional numeracy topics from year 7-8	Students provided with checklist of revision topics on year 9 maths google classroom as well as SOW. Sparx weekly homework tasks set in line with schemes of work.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Science	2 x 35 min written assessment covering all KS3 content from year 7-9	Students provided with checklist of topics. Shared on GC.	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
French	1 x reading paper (30mins) 1 x listening paper (30mins) 1 x speaking assessment paper (5m), Topic: things I like to do, celebrating birthdays, earning money, world of work	The reading exam consists of comprehension questions and translation into English. The listening exam consists of comprehension questions and transcription. The speaking exam consists of a read aloud task followed by a conversation task with both prepared and unprepared questions. Students will be given an overall percentage score averaging all three component skills..	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Spanish	1 x reading paper (30mins) 1 x listening paper (30mins) 1 x speaking assessment paper (5m), Topic: things I like to do, film, world of work	The reading exam consists of comprehension questions and translation into English. The listening exam consists of comprehension questions and transcription. The speaking exam consists of a read aloud task followed by a conversation task with both prepared and unprepared questions. Students will be given an overall percentage score averaging all three component skills..	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Geography	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting same paper
History	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting same paper
RS	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students are told in class, given knowledge organisers and PLCs. Classes are typically given one or two lessons of targeted revision. However this can't always be guaranteed depending on course coverage, absence etc.	No - all pupils sitting same paper
Citizenship	1 x 32 minute assessment. 40 minutes for students with extra time. The assessment will have 36 marks. It will have three sections. One multiple choice section for knowledge, one skills section and a final essay/evaluation/written section. The assessment covers the content the students have been learning since September.	Students provided with checklist of topics, short revision guide and revision resources from the lesson (if applicable).	No - all pupils sitting same paper
Art, Graphics, Textiles, Photography, Hospitality and 3D Design	Students complete workshops in all VA subjects and then opt for a 4 week practical project in two subjects. Students are given feedback and an effort grade for their practical work (in Hospitality students also complete an unseen cook and a written test). In term 2, students opt for 2 subjects for the half term, and will be assessed against the AOs. In term 3, students will be in groups that reflect their GCSE option choices, they will produce a body of work that will be assessed against the GCSE Assessment objectives. As in term 1, Hospitality students will complete both a practical and written assessment, reflecting the nature of the Level 2 Hospitality & Catering course.	Students are made aware when they make each subject option choice what they will be assessed on and how.	All areas are the same, with the exception of Hospitality where there is a theory test alongside the practical work.
PE	A practical assessment is made at the end of each activity block. This measures skill ability, subject knowledge and evaluation. Data is collected on a spreadsheet with the average score being awarded as a measure during data drops etc.	Pupils will complete a range of exercise drills and games throughout their lessons that will be replicated within the final assessment. Pupils will refer to an AFL card which is activity specific.	No. Each set/group may complete different exercises and competitions within the final assessment but will still follow the same AFL criteria.
Film	Students opting for the film project are assessed in the following areas: Pre-production (including the production of specific written planning documents). Production - which covers the efficiency and focus while filming, through teacher observation.. Post-production - which covers the editing process, use of film sound etc. Finally the film itself is graded on how well it meets the elements of suspense.	At the beginning of the project, students are told about the four assessment areas. Then, as they go through the tasks, the descriptors for each grading area are shared.	No
Music	Student who opt for Music Assessment as part of the Y9 Specialism Day carousel are assessed on a long term creative project using Music Technology or as part of a live band.	Success criteria are shared with students at the start of the assessment cycle and exemplar projects from previous years are shared with students.	No
Drama	Practical Assessment based on the Specialism Day sessions.	Assessment cover sheets are handed out to students detailing each specific assessment task.	Projects are developing so their may be slight differences in the project tasks. But skills will primarily be the same.
ICT	Online assessment on topic covered this term (Binary Numbers, Cyber Security, Networking and python programming)	Student complete interim assessment which models expectations in real exam	No - all pupils sitting the same paper
Dance	Practical Assessment based on the Specialism Day sessions.	Assessment cover sheets are handed out to students detailing each specific assessment task.	Projects are developing so their may be slight differences in the project tasks. But skills will primarily be the same.

# YEAR 10 ASSESSMENT CYCLE 1 INFORMATION

Faculty/ subject	Type of Assessment and Coverage	How do students know how they will be assessed?	Are there any differences in assessment for any groups of students (e.g. different papers)
English	AQA 19C novel paper (50 mins) and AQA creative writing task(50 mins)	Students have PLCs and Revision resources and guidance. Exemplar responses shared. Revision lessons to go through key characters, themes, skills and mark scheme.	No H or F tier for English. All sit same paper.
Maths	2 x 1h30mins exam paper (paper 1 non-calc & paper 2 calc) covering all content taught since Sep with some additional topics from year 7-9	Students provided with checklist of revision topics on year 10 maths google classroom as well as SOW. Sparx weekly homework tasks set in line with schemes of work.	10m1,2,3,4 - Higher tier 10m5,6 - Foundation tier 10m7 - mixture of tiers
Science	3 x 60 mins papers covering all GCSE content so far (CB1, 2, 3, 4 CC1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6,7 . CP1,2, 3, 4)	Students provided with checklist. Revision guides available. Practice materials given. Educake.	Higher and Foundation tiers
French	1 x speaking assessment (read aloud & picture description task) 1 x reading and listening assessment (comprehension questions. dictation, translation) 1 x writing assessment (picture description and 1 written response (60 minutes) Topics: Modules 1-2	Topic and vocab list shared on GC	Higher and Foundation tiers combined in one paper
Spanish	1 x speaking assessment (read aloud & picture description task) 1 x reading and listening assessment (comprehension questions. dictation, translation) paper (60 minutes) 1 x writing assessment (picture description and 1 written response (60 minutes) Topics: Modules 1-2	Topic and vocab list shared on GC	Higher and Foundation tiers combined in one paper
Geography	1 x physical geography paper on Tropical Storms and Ecosystems (45 min) GCSE past paper 1 x human geography paper on Changing Cities and Resource Management (1 hr - in double lesson)	Revision in class before Christmas, revision books and lists given, exam style questions practised in class.	No - all same paper
History	1, 1 hour paper on Conflict and Tension in Asia - The Korean and Vietnam War	Google Classroom. Checklists. It has also been covered across the year and there are revision lessons before hand.	Same paper for everyone
RS	One paper - (Christianity Beliefs & practices ) 50 minutes	Google Classroom. Checklists. It has also been covered across the year and there are revision lessons before hand.	Same paper for everyone
Citizenship	1 x written paper (1 hour); 1 x key term assessment (30 minutes) Topics: Values, Identity, Changing UK Population, The Media, The UK's Role in Key International Organisations	* checklist of topics; * knowledge organisers/revision mats; * revision resources from lesson prior to the exam	n/a
Art Graphics Photography Textiles and 3D Design	Students have been completing their first unit of coursework on which they will be assessed. The assessment will be of their body of practical and written work for assessment objectives AO1, AO2 and AO3.	Ongoing "coursework" style system, students are made aware from the beginning. Students will receive an assessment sheet identifying which criteria their evidence meets, which has also been fed into their lessons they have completed this term.	N/A
Hospitality & Catering	Students will complete a mini assignment brief based on the Unit 2 practical exam(60%). In the summer term, they will complete a written exam based on the Unit 1 online assessment 40%. There will be end of topic tests for Unit 1 as well.	Students write proposal + production plan before cooking their Unit 2 exam meals. For unit 1, practice questions, AC checklists are followed by end of topic assessments using past papers and transparent tracking, revision sessions are built in.	N/A
PE	From September pupils start working within Component 1 that counts towards 30% of their final grade. Four controlled assessments are completed 3 written and one a practical performance of a warm up.	The criteria for each assessment/piece of coursework is introduced at the start of the learning block through an assignment brief that is produced by btcc/person.	No
Music	Formative assessments covering performing, composing and listening tasks tasks each term. Summative assessment for listening assessment as part of Y10 assessment window.	Practice questions covered regularly as part of lesson activities. Coursework success criteria shared with students in lessons.	No
Film	Structured progress over several weeks builds towards a first piece of formal film studies analytical writing, which gives a summative grade. This combines students' ability to apply technical film knowledge to a clip from one of the set films, along with the ability to articulate their understanding in formal writing following given structure. In addition, there is formative assessment of different types of classwork tasks (including discussion tasks, and short-form written work) plus engagement with practical homework.	Formal writing questions are from past exams, and the lesson sequence makes explicit that they are building towards their primal assessed piece for the term. Students regularly give peer feedback (guided by teacher to focus on the exam board criteria, supporting their understanding of what makes good work.	No
Drama	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award - Component 1: Task 1 and 2. From December students will be creating a portfolio covering both tasks that will count towards 30% of their final grade. This can be 8-12 pages of A4 (or equivalent slides for electronic evidence) and/or 4-6 minutes of video/digital footage or audio recordings.	The criteria for the coursework assignment is analysed with the students against exemplars. Students will also complete mock entries to their portfolios in the run up to December which are graded and given feedback.	No
Computer Science	End of term assessment paper 1 - programming, paper 2- computing fundamentals	PLC provided to students as well as interim assessment each week with sample assessments help to provide expectations	All students complete the same assessment
Dance	Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award - Component 1: Task 1 and 2. From December students will be creating a portfolio covering both tasks that will count towards 30% of their final grade. This will include a teacher taught dance to a theme that the exam board has provided.	The criteria for the coursework assignment is analysed with the students against exemplars. Students are given criteria from exam board and knowledge organisers at the beginning of the assessment window.	No