

# **Year 8 Progress Tests**

## **15<sup>th</sup> January - 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

## **I. Introduction**

### **a) What are the Progress Tests?**

The Year 8 Progress Tests will be taking place in most subjects in the week beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. While these tests do not lead to any external qualifications, they are an important benchmark for both school and home to see how well your child is progressing. They will take place in the School Hall (supervised by your child's class teacher) and will be 1 hour in length in most subjects.

The tests will cover most/ all of the content covered by the students since they started at Gillotts in Year 7. The topics which your child needs to revise are detailed in the following pages. The style of these tests will be modelled on GCSE questions and will cover the command words (e.g. describe, explain, analyse) which are used by the exam boards.

Your child's performance in these tests will be reported home to you as part of the Term 4 report. A separate exam grade will be included in this report and this will help to inform your child's overall 'Current Grade'.

### **b) Will my child be taking Progress Tests in all subjects?**

While your child will be taking tests in most subjects during the Progress Test week, there are some subjects (art & design, dance, drama and PE) in which they will not be taking a test.

### **c) When will the tests take place?**

The Progress Tests will mainly take place according to the exam timetable which is on page 4 of this booklet.

### **d) What happens if your child is absent from school?**

If your child is absent from school, his/ her teacher will ensure that the test is completed in the next lesson after their return.

### **e) How can my child prepare for the Progress Tests?**

While some revision will be completed in school over the next few weeks, it is also very important that your child completes revision at home to help prepare for these tests. This will ensure that they are as thoroughly prepared as possible for these tests - and will also help them develop the study/ revision skills required for GCSE and beyond.

A starting point for this revision will be to ensure that your child has all his/ her exercise books to revise from. You should then work with your child to put together a revision timetable which identifies slots for each subject for revision. This should include some time over the Christmas break.

The following pages also include some details on revision and different revision strategies which your child can use. Your child's tutor will spend time over the next couple of weeks working through this booklet with your child, including putting together a revision timetable.

**f) Who should you contact with any questions about the Progress Tests?**

If you have any questions or concerns about the Progress Tests, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

**g) What equipment should students bring to each test?**

For every test students must bring:

- Black Biro/ pens (at least two)
- Calculator
- Pencils (at least two) – preferably HB
- Colouring pencils
- Ruler (preferably 30cm ruler)
- Eraser
- Protractor
- Pair of Compasses
- A clear pencil case / bag to keep everything in
- A pencil sharpener

Please also note that water bottles should not have any labels/ writing on them.

# Year 8 Progress Tests 15 – 19 January 2018

<b>B Week</b> <b>MON 15 January</b>	<b>TUES 16 January</b>	<b>WED 17 January</b>	<b>THU 18 January</b>	<b>FRI 19 January</b>
Religious Studies  1 hr	Geography  1 hr	Mathematics Non Calculator Paper  1 hr 30 min	Mathematics Calculator Paper  1 hr 30min	Design Technology  Computing 30min Resistant Materials 30min Food 30min
Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
French 50min	Music 50min	Spanish or German 50 min	PSHE Activities ( No exams)	
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
History  1 hr	English  1 hr	Science  1 hr	PSHE Activities ( No exams)	

**Please Take Note of the Following;**

Please leave bags and coats in the main entrance to the hall. Then go round to the car park, at the back of the hall and line up in Houses. Listen carefully for your name to be called. Enter the exam hall in **silence** and do not talk until you have been dismissed at the end of the exam.

You will need two black pens, two sharp HB pencils, ruler, rubber, protractor, compass and calculator. All your equipment must be in a clear pencil case or plastic bag. You are not allowed mobile phones or I-watches in your possession, even if they are switched off.

Listen carefully to the instructions given at the start of the exam and check that you have the correct paper. Write your name clearly on each exam paper.

2. Which topics will the tests cover in each subject?

Subjects	Which topics will the tests cover?	How can I revise in each subject?	What additional resources can I use to help me revise?
<p><b>Creative Technologies</b> (Computing, Food, Resistant Materials, Textiles) - single exam for all</p>	<p><b>Computing</b> The use of technology in the wider world, new and emerging technology Computing and Control</p> <p><b>Food</b> Nutrition, healthy eating. The eat well plate The uses of equipment</p> <p><b>Resistant Materials</b> Research, product analysis and criteria to design products, Specifications Design drawing, Evaluating ideas Materials and Making issues: Material types, components, tools and equipment</p> <p><b>Textiles</b> Research, product analysis and criteria to design products, Evaluating ideas Use of equipment; Making skills Properties of fabrics</p>	<p>Revision materials will be accessible on Google Classroom.</p> <p>Additional copies available from class teachers upon request.</p> <p>Revisit the structure of projects set throughout the year and the design process cycle (research, analysis, specification, design, make &amp; evaluate)</p>	<p><b>Computing</b> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zvc9q6f">http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zvc9q6f</a></p> <p><b>Food</b> <a href="http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/">http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/</a></p> <p><b>Resistant Materials</b> <a href="http://www.technologystudent.com">www.technologystudent.com</a> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize">http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize</a></p> <p><b>Textiles</b> <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/textiles/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/design/textiles/</a></p>
<p><b>English</b></p>	<p>Persuasive Writing</p> <p>Non-fiction texts</p>	<p>When revising English you should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plan a variety of writing tasks;</li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://grammar-monster.com/">http://grammar-monster.com/</a></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ensure you understand the styles and features required when writing for different purposes (e.g. to persuade; to describe...), audiences (e.g. adults, friends) and formats (e.g. letter, newspaper article);</li> <li>● improve your understanding of how to use punctuation appropriately and for effect;</li> <li>● improve your knowledge of different ways to structure sentences;</li> <li>● reflect upon why paragraphing is important and consider how they add structure to texts;</li> <li>● refresh your memory of different techniques that are used in writing (for example: metaphors, similes...);</li> <li>● learn spellings that are commonly used;</li> <li>● read widely (e.g. newspapers, BBC news website...) and think about how writers have made use of the above bullet points in their work.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/reading/sentences/revision/5/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/reading/sentences/revision/5/</a>  <a href="https://www.grammarly.com/">https://www.grammarly.com/</a>  Revision materials will be available on Google Classroom.
<b>French</b>	Film & TV, hobbies, a recent trip,, weekend activities,  Present and past tenses	Students should use class work and exercise books to review what they have learnt this year & last year. They should go through previous assessments and use targets in books to guide revision.	Students' exercise books.  <a href="https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/">https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/</a> username: school username school email address password: Gillotts123 Students select Studio 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Red for students studying 2 languages, Green for students studying double French</li> </ul> Studio 1 will also be useful.
<b>Geography</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Food chains and food webs</li> <li>● Distribution of tropical rainforests</li> <li>● Climate graphs</li> </ul>	Students should use their exercise books to review what has been learnt this year. They should look at writing skills and targets that they have been given throughout the year.	Students can use their classwork books and KS3 BBC Bitesize

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptations of plants and animals to a tropical rainforest environment</li> <li>• Location, causes, effects and responses to a tropical storm</li> <li>• Geographical skills including measuring distance, compass direction, grid references, latitude and longitude, OS map symbols. Describing and interpreting graphs/charts/photographs.</li> </ul>		
<b>German</b>	<p>Describing yourself and others, pets, free time, school - subjects/opinions/school day</p> <p>Present &amp; future tenses.</p>	<p>Students should use class work and exercise books to review what they have learnt this year &amp; last year. They should go through previous assessments and use targets in books to guide revision.</p>	<p>Students' exercise books.</p> <p><a href="https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/">https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/</a>  username: school username +01  password: Gillotts123  Students select Stimmt 1 &amp; 2 Quizlet</p>
<b>History</b>	<p>Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Spanish Armada</li> <li>• The Gunpowder Plot</li> <li>• The English Civil War</li> </ul> <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge</li> <li>• Source analysis</li> </ul>	<p>Revision materials accessible on Google Classroom.</p> <p>Additional copies available from class teachers upon request.</p>	<p>BBC Bitesize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">The Spanish Armada</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">The Gunpowder Plot</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">The English Civil War</a></li> </ul>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>Students will be told which Stage papers they are taking by their class teacher.</p>	<p>Revising Maths = doing questions to find out what you know and do not know and then addressing areas that you get wrong using mathswatch. Students should do questions on each topic on the revision list and aim for 100% accuracy - you are only a Master when you never get it wrong. Most students, who get low scores are those who assume they are masters without checking this assumption by doing questions under test conditions to see if they can i)recall</p>	<p><a href="http://www.vle.Mathswatch.co.uk">www.vle.Mathswatch.co.uk</a> (do interactive questions and worksheets)</p> <p>Revision Lists and practice questions will also be posted on google classroom</p>

		what to do and ii) apply their knowledge to unseen questions typical of those that appear in exams	
<b>Music</b>	Information about topics we have studied this year, including: Notes on the stave, rhythms and music vocabulary and listening to and identifying different tempos, dynamics and instruments. Students will also be asked to notate rhythms and melodic pitch which they have been covering in class.	Read through the revision pack and practice at home.	Revision pack will be available on Google Classroom.
<b>RS</b>	<b>Importance of Jesus</b> Beliefs about Jesus, miracles, why Jesus was important.  <b>Sikhism</b> Understanding the key beliefs and practices of this religion.	Students should use their exercise books to review writing skills and targets that they have been given for development after assessments throughout the year	KS3 Bitesize - Sikhism, Christianity  <a href="http://request.org.uk/issues/ultimate-questions/">http://request.org.uk/issues/ultimate-questions/</a>
<b>Science</b>	7.1 Skills Passport 7.2 Cells and Organisation 7.3 Particles 7.4 Energy 7.5 Reproduction 7.6 Ecology 7.7 Solar System 8.1 Food Science 8.2 Electricity and Magnetism 8.3 Periodic Table	Students should reflect on topics covered in year 7 and so far in year 8. They should use their exercise books as a revision resource.  Key words and processes need to be focussed on using index cards or mind maps to structure revision.	KS3 BBC Bitesize CGP KS3 Revision Guide SAM Learning Quizlet  Click on link below to find revision list: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/176jjl3xSlNhJOSEAk_mR4DNGm9xNfi-3/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/176jjl3xSlNhJOSEAk_mR4DNGm9xNfi-3/view?usp=sharing</a>
<b>Spanish</b>	describing a town, what you do in town, a past holiday. Present, past and future tenses.	Students should use class work and exercise books to review what they have learnt this year & last year. They should go through previous assessments and use targets in books to guide revision.	Students' exercise books.  <a href="https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/">https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/</a> username: school email address password: Gillotts123 Students select Viva 1 & 2

### **3. How to revise effectively?**

#### **a) Being organised**

- Being organised is a key to successful revision. This will include:
  - Having a quiet place to revise
  - Ensuring that all your revision resources (including exercise books) are available
  - Planning your revision for each subject (a revision timetable) and sticking to it
  - Rewarding yourself when you meet your revision targets and catching up if you do not

#### **b) Producing a Revision Timetable**

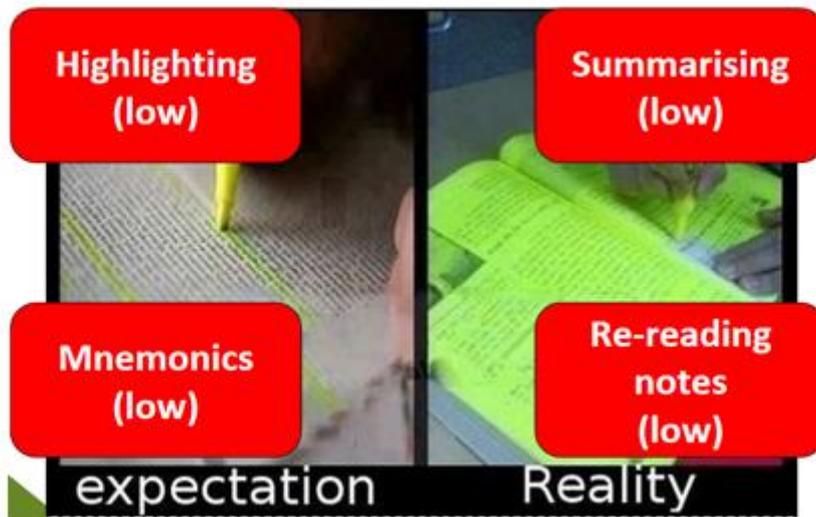
- It is very easy just to revise the subjects which you enjoy the most or are best at.
- However, the Progress Tests will cover all your subjects and it is important that you do well in all of them.
- Producing a revision timetable which covers all the subjects is really important - this should involve shorter bursts of revision in each subject (and coming back to subjects) rather than trying to cover everything in one go.
- It is important that English and maths are a central part of this schedule - but please do not forget all the other subjects.
- We would recommend starting your revision as soon as possible (there are three weeks until half term) with the aim of spending an hour or so revising a night before half-term and then a couple of hours a day over half-term (and in the week half-term).
- We recommend doing revision in 30 minute bursts (2 subjects per night) in the run-up to half-term and then 3 subjects per day/ night during and after half-term.

## Revision Timetable (Template)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1							
Week 2							
Week 3							
Week 4							
Week 5							

- The next section includes some examples of revision techniques which your child might use:

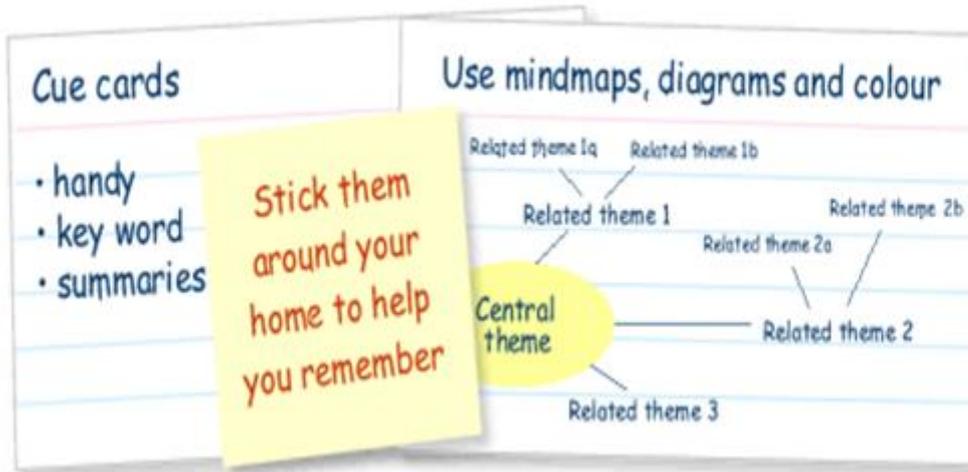
## Research suggests these methods don't work...



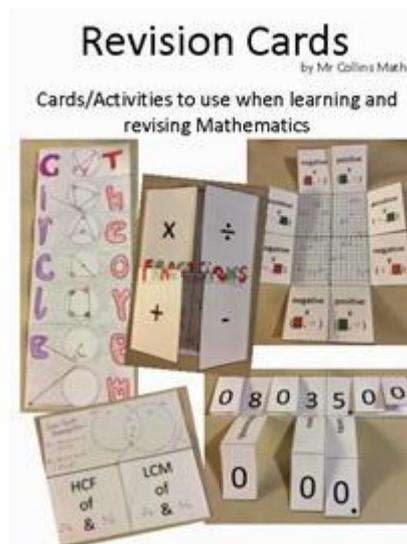
## Research suggests these methods work...



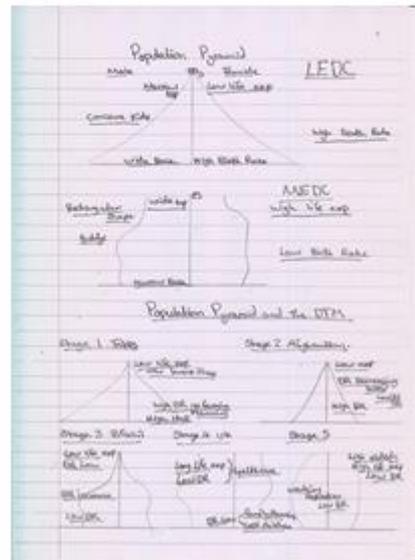
# CUE CARDS



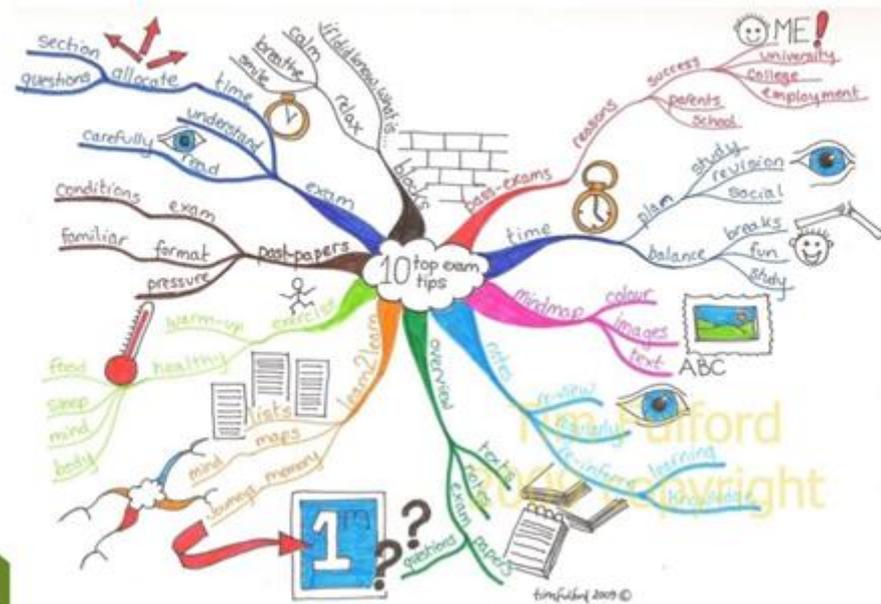
## Examples of Revision Cards



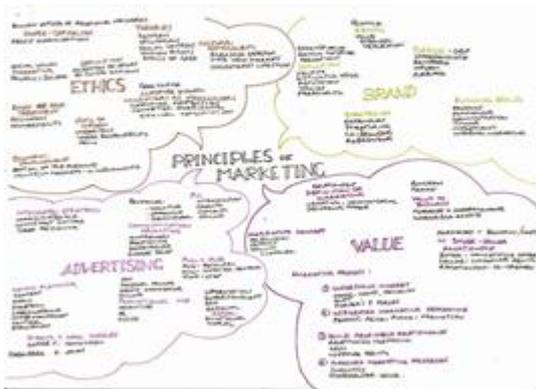
# Revision Notes



# MIND MAP



## Examples of mind maps/spidergrams



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## Key Terms and definitions

### Definitions

- **Saturated:** Ground where the pores are full and can contain no more water.
- **Unsaturated:** Ground where there is still space between the pores.
- **Water table:** The border between saturated and unsaturated ground. The water table may go up or down.
- **Permeable:** Surfaces that allow water to pass through them.
- **Impermeable:** Surfaces that do not allow water to pass through them.
- **Pores:** Gaps between soil and gravel that water can fill.
- **Aquifer:** Rock that can hold water.
- **Aquiclude:** Rock that can not hold water.
- **Porous:** Rock with pore spaces and cracks in it.
- **Non-porous:** Rock with no pore spaces or cracks in it.
- **Condenses:** When water vapour turn into water droplets. Water can only condense around **condensation nuclei**
- **Antecedent Moisture:** Amount of water in the soil before additional precipitation
- **Topography:** The shape of the land

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