

2 November 2020



GLOUCESTER  
ACADEMY

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Assessments 23 November - 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020: Year 8**

Welcome back to Term 2 at Gloucester Academy we hope that you were able to spend some time with your family over the holidays.

This term we have our first assessment cycle which will mean that your child will be sitting a series of assessments so they are able to demonstrate their learning over the previous 12 weeks. These assessments will take place in their usual lessons between the 23 November and 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and you will notice there are no words in the Knowledge Organiser for these weeks (Weeks 11 and 12) .

#### **What homework do they do for weeks 11 and 12?**

During weeks 11 and 12 (23 November to 4 December 2020) your child's orange practice book will be used to practice any definitions from the previous 10 weeks that that they do not know. The rest of the letter will explain why this is so important.

#### **What will they need to learn for the assessments?**

You will be relieved to hear that the assessments link directly to what they have been learning for homework and in class. Your child will be given a list of definitions and they will be asked to write next to each definition the keyword that it is describing. There are usually 50 keywords for each subject and will be tested over the two weeks on each subject according to the timetable I have written below. The keywords are the ones in the Knowledge Organisers, ones they have been practicing for homework and learning about in lessons.

#### **How can you help your child?**

You can help prepare your child for these assessments by talking through the keywords and testing them on the them by reading out some definitions. For example, you would say to your child: *'In Science what word means a simple sugar produced by plants in Photosynthesis?'* Hopefully your child will remember the answer is glucose and you could tick it in their Knowledge Organiser, it is as simple as that.

Your child could also make some revision cards to learn the words and they will be shown how to do this in school and a video will be posted on the website to help. You could use these to help your child learn the words.

We understand that households can be very busy and you may not have time to test your child and if this is the case we just ask that you support your child by checking they understand what it is they need to learn and they have the space to do this.

#### **How will you know how well they do in each assessment?**

Your child's assessment will be marked immediately and the percentage of words they get correct will be recorded by their teacher. Students with additional needs will have had the support they need to complete the test so they are not at a disadvantage.

A report will then be sent home to you to explain how well your child has done in each subject

compared to the year group and ~~how well they are doing overall.~~ The report will also explain how

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much progress your child has made in each subject which is the main focus of the assessments.

**What will the school do with the assessment scores?**

Once we have all the assessment information we will reset the classes to ensure the right students are obtaining the right support to progress even further as they enter the second twelve weeks of the school year. You and your child will be told of any class movements and a conversation will be had with the Head of Year if there are any concerns.

The dates for each assessment that your child will sit are on the next page of the letter and have been designed so you can easily display them in the house.

If your child misses an assessment they will have to take it at a later date.

If you have any questions around assessments at all please contact either myself (details at the bottom the letter) or Mr J Watson using the email [jwatson@Gloucesteracademy.co.uk](mailto:jwatson@Gloucesteracademy.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

*P Lewis*

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Year	Week 11 (week beginning 23rd November)					Week 12 (week beginning 30th November)				
8	23-Nov	24-Nov	25-Nov	26-Nov	27-Nov	30-Nov	01-Dec	02-Dec	03-Dec	04-Dec
8G	Drama			Music	PE	Geography English Art	RS	Spanish	History Maths	Science Design Technology
8L		PE		Design Technology	History	RS English Music	Spanish Drama	Maths	Geography Art	Science
8O			Drama	PE	Geography Art	RS	English Spanish	Maths Music	Science History Design Technology	
8U			Music		PE Drama	Spanish	Geography English Design Technology	History Maths	Science	RS Art
8C		RS	Drama	Music Art	Design Technology PE	History		Geography English Maths	Science Spanish	

