



Assessment Week: Sixth Form

Dear Parent/Carer,

You have recently received a letter about the upcoming Assessment Week at Whitmore High School (running from **Wednesday 13th December to Wednesday 20th December**). We feel that this is a unique opportunity for our sixth form students to prepare revision materials, complete project work, and practise exam-style assessments in readiness for university life. Please read below additional information on Assessment Week that only applies to students in sixth form:

What will happen if my child has lessons at Pencoedtre High School?

If your child is based at Whitmore High School, then they will be participating in the Assessment Week. Staff at Pencoedtre will be creating assessments, where relevant, for students to complete at Whitmore during the week.

My child is only studying 3 or 4 subjects. What will they be doing when they are not completing assessments?

As with other year groups, sixth form students will be completing supervised revision when not completing assessments. However, we are aware that students are able to be more responsible for their own revision when in the sixth form. Therefore, students *will be allowed to bring in their own laptops or tablets* to aid their revision. Activities they can complete during revision time could include:

- Creation of revision materials in preparation for external examinations
- Creation of whole-class revision materials to be submitted to the class teacher
- Completion of past examination papers
- Continuation of the Welsh Bacalaureate project in both year 12 and year 13
- Continuation of coursework
- Reading/annotation of set texts

It will be important that your child is prepared to complete this work. It is their responsibility to bring in relevant stationary and equipment to ensure they make excellent use of this revision opportunity.

My child does not have a laptop or a tablet. Can the school help?

There will be a number of laptops available to sign out with Mr Bourton at the beginning of each day. Please ensure your child notifies Mr Bourton before Assessment Week if they will need a laptop to enable the school to have an adequate supply.

What happens if my child is absent from school?

Attendance to Assessment Week is compulsory for sixth form and they should not be absent; however, we understand that illness may occur. Contact home will be made for non-authorized absence. Sixth form students will be expected to catch up on any missed assessments during the week.



How can I support my child at home?

In the lead up to Assessment Week, you can support your child by helping them create a revision timetable, or supporting them with the creation of revision materials. Pupils will have access to knowledge organisers for each of their subjects, and it will be helpful if you could test your child on the core knowledge on these organisers.

Below are some useful links to support your child with revision and exam stress:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmy692p>
- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/exam-time/>
- <https://www.teachertoolkit.co.uk/2022/05/31/16-tips-to-support-revision/>
- <https://www.wjec.co.uk/articles/how-to-get-the-most-from-our-knowledge-organisers/>

It is important for students to have breaks, eat well, and have plenty of sleep when sitting assessments and revising.

We hope you will join us in supporting your child in both the lead up and during Assessment Week.

Maria Palmizi
Assistant Headteacher