



Woodrush High School

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18

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Our Ref: JNR/KMC

20th May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Synoptic Assessment Window 2

As we approach the end of the year, it is important for us to assess your child's learning during our second synoptic assessment window. The key purposes of these synoptic assessments are outlined below:

- To identify what your child knows, the skills they have developed, but also most importantly to determine what your child needs to work on and develop in their learning.
- To report back to you on your child's learning and progress this year.
- To celebrate your child's learning and progress.
- To challenge your child. Learning is a complex process and we must challenge your child so that they push themselves to succeed. We want to build determination and resilience in our students and synoptic assessments can help with this.
- To build a culture of effective revision by all students in all years, so that your child is prepared with revision skills for GCSE and A-level examinations in the future. Each subject will provide revision materials that your child will be able to access to support their revision.
- To give your child practise of completing synoptic assessments under exam conditions. This will help prepare them for the rigour of mock and GCSE/A-Level examinations in the future.
- To identify those children who need access arrangements. Synoptic assessments provide evidence for those who may potentially need access arrangements in GCSE / A-level examinations.

The timetable below shows when synoptic assessments will occur for students in key stage 3 (Years 7-9). We have made a slight change since the last synoptic window, in that all students will sit the same assessment at the same time. For example on Monday 9th June period 1, all year 7 students will attend their usual timetabled class with their usual timetabled teacher, however irrespective of what lesson they normally have they will all sit their year 7 maths synoptic assessment. This creates greater clarity and means that all children can focus and prepare for the same synoptic assessment, and this replicates what happens in GCSE / A-Level examinations. It also means that it is fair for all students and students can't talk about assessments to their peers.

You will notice that we have limited the number of assessments to a maximum of 2 per day and spaced these out in a day, such that students are able to perform to their best in each synoptic assessment. The synoptic assessments have also been carefully timetabled such that your child will not miss their PE lessons, because the mental and physical health benefits of doing PE will help in what will be a challenging week. Your child will attend normal lessons in periods which do not have assessments scheduled.

Headteacher: Mr J Barber, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Deputy Headteacher(s): Mr D Monk, BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH; Mrs M Holtom-Brown, BA (Hons), GTTP; Mr I Wright, BA (Hons), PGCE
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Synoptic Assessment Timetable

Year	Week	Date	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4
7	B	Monday 9th June	Maths		Computing	
		Tuesday 10th June	Science		History	
		Wednesday 11th June	Geography		English	
		Thursday 12th June	Spanish		Faith and Ethics + PSHE	
		Friday 13th June	Music			
8	B	Monday 9th June	Spanish		English	
		Tuesday 10th June	History			
		Wednesday 11th June	Science		Maths	
		Thursday 12th June	Geography		Computing	
		Friday 13th June	Faith and Ethics + PSHE		Music	
9	A	Monday 16th June	Science		Spanish	
		Tuesday 17th June	Maths		Computing	
		Wednesday 18th June			English	
		Thursday 19th June	History			Music
		Friday 20th June	Geography		Faith and Ethics + PSHE	

Students who study Mandarin, will complete Mandarin MEP Hurdle tests in place of synoptic assessments and Mrs Chen will communicate details of these assessments.

You will also notice that the following subjects do not have a synoptic assessment calendared:

- Art
- Drama
- PE

This is because in these subjects, a model of continuous assessment is being adopted which is better suited to assessing these subjects which are more skills based. This approach better reflects the assessment approach that these subjects use at GCSE / A-level and will give a more rounded view of your child's learning in these subjects.

Progress Phase 2 Reports

Following this synoptic exam window but before the end of the year, your child will receive their Progress Phase 2 Report which will outline your child's:

- Target grades for each subject
- Working at grade for each subject (based upon synoptic assessments and any other assessment data collected this year)
- Progress comment for each subject

To inspire, achieve and celebrate *excellence through endeavour.*



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Your child's teacher will use these assessments to drive learning forwards by identifying gaps in knowledge and will then work at closing them through in class interventions and homework.

How to support your child

- Talk to your child about the importance of these synoptic assessments.
- Make sure your child is aware of the dates / times of their synoptic assessments.
- Help your child to revise at home. The most effective revision strategies are active rather than passive, for example drawing mind maps, making and using flashcards, and self-quizzing.
- Keep your child calm and positive. These synoptic assessments are challenging, but we want the experience to be positive and we want to focus upon learning strengths and areas for development.
- Ensure that your child is equipped with 2 black ball point pens, a pencil, a ruler, a rubber and a scientific calculator so that they are prepared to succeed.

We look forward to seeing your child achieve in these synoptic assessments and we wish your child all the best in them. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J. Roche
Assistant Headteacher.