



Urmston Grammar School

RE: Baseline Assessments (Y12)

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of our transition into Sixth Form, all Year 12 students will be completing a series of *Baseline Assessments* during the week commencing **Monday 29th September**.

A timetable outlining the dates and times of each assessment is provided overleaf for your reference. We strongly encourage students to begin their revision as early as possible, so they feel confident and well-prepared. These assessments are an important opportunity for us to understand each student's current level of knowledge and to identify areas where additional support may be needed. Regular and focused revision will not only build confidence but also support a strong start to Year 12.

This morning, we delivered an assembly to Year 12 students, sharing a range of effective revision strategies. Our whole school message is that the most powerful form of revision is *spaced retrieval practice* - where students recall information from memory before checking and addressing gaps. This approach is strongly supported by academic research.

We recommended the following strategies:

1. **Cued Recall** - For learning key knowledge and basic facts, students should use flashcards, structured notes (e.g. Cornell Notes), or quiz apps.
2. **Free Recall** - To recall and connect larger amounts of information, techniques such as blurting, mind maps, or explaining concepts to a friend/family member can be very effective.
3. **Practice Questions and Past Papers** - Once content has been learned, students should apply their knowledge through exam-style questions. We encourage students to attempt these first without a mark scheme, then check their responses afterwards.

Further guidance on revision and study habits can be found in the Year 12 Handbook, which all students received in September.

Finally, we recognise that assessments and examinations can sometimes feel stressful. We have therefore also reminded students about the importance of maintaining balance - including good rest, healthy routines, and seeking support if they are feeling overwhelmed.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child establish positive study habits.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Mangham-Dewhurst
Assistant Headteacher - Head of Sixth Form

Mr J Neale
Assistant Head of Sixth Form - Head of Year 12



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Year 12 Baseline Assessment Week w/b 29th September TIMETABLE

Day	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
Monday		English Literature: Death of a Salesman German: Mr Cummins	Religion, Philosophy & Ethics: Natural Law	Politics: Mr Corrigan	History (12A) Dr. McPartland
Tuesday		Geography (CPMS) Ms Bramwell			Physical Education
Wednesday	Geography (FoF) Mr Neale	History (12B) Dr. McPartland	Business Studies (12C) Mr Hains/Mr Singh	English Language: Individual & Society (LD) Psychology (12A1) Research Methods Business Studies (12A) BH/KSI	
Thursday	Economics (12B) Mr Kearns/Mr Singh Physics (12B) Practical – Mr Leech Sociology (12B) Mrs Kinder Maths (12B/M1) Mrs Hunt Biology (12B)	Psychology (12A2) Maths (12A/M1) Mr Prastka Biology (12A)	Physics (12D) Practical – Mr Patel Sociology (12D) Miss Matthews Maths (12D/M1) Mr Watkinson Maths (12D/M2) Mr Pratska Biology (12D)	Psychology (12C) Research Methods – Miss Matthews French Maths (12C/M1) Mrs Hodson Biology (12C/B1 & 12C/B2)	
Friday		Physics (12B) Theory – Mr Murray Chemistry (12B) Mrs Hoyle	Psychology (12C) Chemistry (12C) Mr Roberts Computer Science (12C) Mr Verma	Further Maths (12A) Mrs Hunt Psychology (12A1) Chemistry (12A) Mr Roberts/Mr Bracewell	Physics (12D) Theory – Miss Lowe Chemistry (12D) Miss Ghaffur Politics Miss Bourne

Art will be using a variety of “ final pieces” to use as a baseline and this will be done over a series of lessons.