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Year 8 Rank Order Assessments

6th January - 13th January 2026

Information & Support for
Students & Parents

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Each exam will take place in normal lesson time in the classroom, unless you have access arrangements, this will be communicated to you on an individual basis.

Date	P1	P2	BREAK	P3	P4	LUNCH	P5	P6
Monday 5th January	Inset day - not in school							
Tuesday 6th January				History (50 mins)			English Writing (45 minutes)	
Wednesday 7th January	Geography - Population (45 mins)			Maths (sets GS,1) - Calculator (45 mins)				
Thursday 8th January				Science (50 mins)			English Reading (45 minutes)	
Friday 9th January				Religious Studies - Islam (45 mins)			Maths (sets 2,3,4) - Calculator (45 mins)	
Monday 12th January	French Reading and Writing (45 minutes)							



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Mathematics

Contact: grimasonm@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk

Students will sit one exam that is 45 minutes. It is a calculator exam.

Topics to be covered in the exam:

- 8.01 Powers and Roots
- 8.02 Prime Factorisation
- 8.03 Rounding
- 8.04 Fractions
- 8.05 Solving Equations
- 8.06 Angles in Parallel Lines
- 8.07 Circumference

Revision resources:

Over the Christmas break we will provide the students with Assessment style questions for homework in the form of small paper booklets, this will be in addition to one SPARX task. Each homework question will have an accompanying SPARX reference, if students are finding questions challenging, it is encouraged that they reinforce their learning by watching the video and completing some related questions using the independent learning function on the SPARX platform. Students will be required to mark all work with a green pen using the answer schemes found on Teams shared by their classroom teacher.

All homework will be requested for submission on their first lesson back after the Christmas holidays.



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English

Contact: percivalc@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk

Students will sit two 45-minute assessments, one reading assessment and one writing assessment, that will assess the skills and knowledge that have been taught in lessons so far and will re-cap basic knowledge that students will have from previous key stages. Students will be asked to answer a mixture of shorter multiple choice questions and longer written responses.

Topics covered in the exam:

Reading:

- Comprehension of small extracts of text
- Inference – explicit and implicit
- Characterisation
- Ability to carefully select meaningful evidence
- Writing about a writer's choice of language

Writing:

- Using the correct conventions for a piece of creative writing Including language, language features and structural features for effect spelling, punctuation, grammar and ambitious vocabulary
- Ability to control narrative voice (first person, third person etc)
- Use of implicit and explicit characterisation.

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

1. Class exercise books.
2. Models for responding to the text questions (in student's English books and revision booklet that will be brought home).
3. Reading widely outside of school
4. Completing Sparx Reader

Science

Contact: bennettb@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk

Students will sit one exam paper; the assessment will be 50 minutes and covers content learnt in Key stage three to date.

Students will need a calculator in the exam. There will be a variety of short and long extended answer questions.

The paper will contain all three sciences: biology, chemistry and physics.

Topics to be covered in the exam:

- [Biology](#): Cells, tissues and organs; life cycles; plants and photosynthesis;
- [Chemistry](#): Particles; chemical changes, Earth and atmosphere, material
- [Physics](#): Heating and cooling; fundamentals of physics; sound and light

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

- Class exercise books
- BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p>
- Oak National Academy: [Curriculum - Curriculum \(continuityoak.org.uk\)](https://curriculum-continuityoak.org.uk)
- Seneca: <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>
- CGP revision guide - if you have purchased one.

All **Sparx** assignments which have been set for homework since September, have all had a focus on topics which could arise in this mid topic ROA.



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History

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Students will sit a 50-minute examination which is split into three parts. The following questions may appear:

Section A-Knowledge

- Multiple choice questions
- Closed quiz questions
- Sequencing activity put events in order from oldest to most recent.

Section B- Sources and Interpretations

- What two things do you learn from source A about X?
- Which of the below statements best describes the message of source A?
- Using the provenance (origin) what is the purpose of source A?
- Identify the argument made in interpretation 1.
- Use your own knowledge to support interpretation 1.
- Identify what a counter-interpretation may argue?

Section C-12 Marks +3 SPAG

- Extended writing and second-order concepts. Individual planning sheets provided with paragraph headings, and helpful words

Topics that will be covered in the exam:

- The Reformation and Henry VIII's Break from Rome
- Religious changes under Edward VI, Mary Tudor and Elizabeth I.

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

- Exercise book
- [Knowledge organiser](#)
- BBC Bitesize [The Tudors - KS3 History - BBC Bitesize](#)
- Oak Academy student lessons [Unit - Oak National Academy \(thenational.academy\)](#)
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Geography

Contact: fosterr@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk

Students will sit a 45-minute exam paper on the second unit of work completed this year 'Population'

Topics to be covered include:

- Population distribution
- Population growth and its impact
- Factors influencing birth and death rates
- Population pyramids
- Ageing and youthful population
- Migration (including case study of India to the UK)
- Impacts of migration on the host and source countries

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

- Knowledge organiser (term 1)
- Oak National Academy resources
- Seneca <https://app.senecalearning.com/login>
- BBC Bitesize website <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9f9kty>

Students will also receive a revision lesson prior to the ROAs to revise content and practice exam skill



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French

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Students will be tested on 2 skills; Reading and Writing.

The reading paper will assess the understanding of several short paragraphs of French. Students will answer questions in English to show what they have understood.

The topics covered will be:

- A description of my school
- School uniform
- School rules
- Jobs and careers
- Invitations and excuses
- Hobbies
- TV and music preferences

In the writing paper students will be asked to write between 40 and 90 words about the topics covered so far in year 8. These are listed above. They should cover a range of the vocabulary to really show what they know.

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

- [Knowledge organiser](#)
- Extended pieces of writing practiced in class and available in exercise books
- [Languagenut](#) Students have passwords for the online platform. They will find revision exercises for relevant vocabulary.



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RE

Contact: roastc@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk

Students will sit a 45-minute paper

The paper will have a mixture of short knowledge retrieval questions based on the knowledge organiser, as well as describing key features and explanation questions.

This assessment will be based on the Islam unit, and the following topics need to be revised:

- Pre-Islamic Arabia
- The Qur'an
- The Hijrah and the conquest of Mecca
- Prophet Muhammad's final sermon
- Sunni/ Shi'a split
- Five pillars

Resources to help students revise:

- Revision resources used in lessons.

Seneca: [Islam revision](#)