

Monday 2nd March 2026

Dear Year 8 Parents and Carers

Re – Year 8 Formal Assessments – English, Maths and Science

Year 8 Formal Assessments in English, Maths and Science will take place on Monday 16th March and Tuesday 17th March. These assessments allow us to measure students' progress so far in Key Stage 3, while also giving them valuable practice in real exam conditions. Beyond testing knowledge, they help students build confidence, manage time and pressure, and refine their exam technique—skills that will be essential for success in their GCSE exams at the end of Year 11.

The exams will be as follows:

Subject	Date	Time	Length
English	Monday 16 th March	9am	50 minutes
Science	Tuesday 17 th March	9am	50 minutes
Maths	Tuesday 17 th March	12.20pm	50 minutes

Further details about the content of each paper and the topics students should revise will be shared separately.

It is essential that students arrive fully equipped as we cannot guarantee spare equipment will be available. Please ensure your child has:

- A black pen (plus a spare)
- A ruler
- A pencil, sharpener and eraser
- A calculator

In GCSE examinations, some students may be entitled to Access Arrangements (for example, extra time or the use of a computer). To establish this entitlement, schools must build a clear evidence base. For this reason, most students will sit these assessments without adjustments. However, the results will contribute to our evaluation of whether access arrangements may be appropriate for individual students.

Yours sincerely,



Matt Halls



New Mills School

Deputy Headteacher