



# Saint Mary's College

## Assessment for Achievement

### Year 8 Study Skills and Revision Booklet

Winter 2018



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## Prepare for Success

Good planning, preparation and time management is the key to examination success. Before you begin studying make sure that you have everything you need. Revision is only possible if you have good notes, the correct books and a list of topics to be revised for each subject.

## Organise and Prioritise

- ✓ Make a list of the topics to be revised for each subject.
- ✓ Rearrange the list of topics into order of importance.
- ✓ Start with the topics that you know the least.
- ✓ Take care not to spend more time of the subjects you like and then neglect the ones that you don't like so much.
- ✓ Arrange your notes, use dividers with a separate section for each subject.
- ✓ Create a Study Timetable and stick to it.



## Year 8 Winter Assessment Timetable

Day	8.45 – 10am	10.30 – 11.30	11.40 – 12.20	12.20 – 1.50pm	2-3pm
Monday 3rd Dec	Science	Languages	LUNCH	Home Economics	History
Tuesday 4th Dec	English	Study	LUNCH	Study	Religion
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Not at school: <b>Home Study</b>				
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Maths	Technology	<b>**LUNCH**</b>	Not at school: <b>Home Study</b>	
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Study	Geography	LUNCH	In school	In school

**\*\*LUNCH\*\*** / Buses will be available for pupils after lunch on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December

## Literacy Focus

Remember to check the following at the end of each exam

- Have I used capital letters properly?
- Have I used a full stop at the end of every sentence?
- Have I used commas appropriately?
- Have I proof read my answers?



## Blank Study Timetable

A study timetable is vital for success. It is important to have a structured approach to your revision because it means you can be sure of covering everything you need in the time available. When creating your timetable make sure that you have a healthy balance between your studies, hobbies and activities you may have and relaxation time. The best timetables are realistic and flexible.

- ✓ Write down important dates and events that you cannot change
- ✓ Study blocks should be 1 hour maximum, then have a break
- ✓ Try to make your study as regular as possible
- ✓ Write down the subject that you are going to study in each section.



Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday



## Top tips for Assessment Success

- ★ Find a good study environment with no distractions
- ★ Put your mobile phone in another room during your study session
- ★ Follow your study timetable
- ★ Always make your own revision notes
- ★ Know your areas of strength and weakness and mix them up on your timetable
- ★ Use a range of revision techniques in order to prevent boredom and to enhance success
- ★ Make summary notes – **LOOK – SAY – COVER – WRITE – CHECK**
- ★ Use diagrams and mind maps to help with learning
- ★ Set yourself a specific goal for each study session – *“By the end of this session I hope to have learnt...”*
- ★ Test yourself
- ★ Stay focussed, don't just make notes on everything, stick to the important stuff
- ★ Have short breaks to relax and exercise in between revision sessions
- ★ Keep a good stock of paper, pens and other stationery
- ★ Get a good night's sleep
- ★ Eat well and keep hydrated



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## How to study

There are a wide variety of different techniques that you can use to help you remember your work. One thing is for certain, **simply just reading your notes will not help you to remember**. You need to be active in the way you revise. Try putting some of the following techniques into practise:

Read the information you want to learn then cover it up and try and **summarise in writing** what you have just read. Then re-read your original notes again and compare to what you have written. Keep doing this until you get it right.

Read **books** rather than the internet as you run the risk of being distracted on the internet

Create **podcasts**, record yourself reading notes on a topic and listen back

**Group Revision** create a study group with friends and test each other's knowledge

**Revision Cards:** Write a set of these – one for each topic you are studying. On them list all the key facts and information you need to know. Use colour to highlight different sections.

**Past papers** are a must – go through one then mark using the mark scheme to assess how you did

Stick **posters, post it notes** or big notes on your bedroom wall

Make up **rhymes** to help you remember key facts

Create **mind maps**

Create **mnemonics** – this is the use of any technique that helps you retain information common applications include acronyms and short poems or phrases

Short phrases or poems – e.g. 'Richard **O**f York **G**ave **B**attle **I**n **V**ain' is used to remember the colours of the rainbow

Acronyms take the first letter of a phrase or word e.g. USA for United States of America



## Subject Revision Lists

### English

Subject	English
<b>Year 8</b>	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	Reading Comprehension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of adjectives, verbs, adverbs, similes, metaphors</li> <li>• Write about characters – their actions and feelings</li> <li>• Show your understanding of what you have read by being able to explain in your own words</li> <li>• Use evidence from the passage to support your opinions</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment Details</b>	100% Examination
<b>Resources</b>	Any novel or Reading Book to extend/develop vocabulary.
<b>Types of Questions</b>	You will have to read an extract from a novel. You will be asked a range of how, what, where and why questions about the extract. You will be asked to explain the meanings of words and write your impressions of characters in the extract.
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Read the passage carefully and several times so that you understand it</li> <li>✓ Read each question carefully</li> <li>✓ Make sure you understand what the question is asking you do. Underline key words in the question to help you focus your reading</li> <li>✓ Write full, complete sentences when answering the questions.</li> <li>✓ Re-read your written answers to check that they make sense and you have communicated your opinion clearly</li> </ul>
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	Black pen.





# Geography

Subject	Geography
<b>Year 8</b>	
Revision Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mapwork Skills</b></li> </ul>
Assessment Details	<b>100% Examination</b>
Resources	<b>Year 8 Yellow Foundations Geography Text book / photocopies Geography Exercise Book</b>
Types of Questions	<b>There will be a range of questions from short questions on key terms, fill in the blanks, label diagrams, draw diagrams, longer questions to assess understanding and analysis.</b>
Detailed content of exams to ensure success	<p>Pupils need to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the difference between physical and human geography and know 3 examples.</li> <li>• List 3 things all maps should have eg a title, scale, compass etc</li> <li>• Be able to draw and label an eight-point compass</li> <li>• Be able to use a map to give directions from one place to another</li> <li>• Know the names of the 6 counties in Northern Ireland eg Fermanagh, Armagh, Tyrone, Derry, Antrim and Down</li> <li>• Know the names of the 4 provinces in Ireland – Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connacht</li> <li>• Know the names of the 3 main mountain ranges in Northern Ireland eg The Sperrins, The Mourne and the Antrim Hills</li> <li>• Know the capital of Northern Ireland (Belfast) and the capital of Ireland (Dublin)</li> <li>• Know the names of the rivers which flow into the following cities eg Derry – River Foyle, Belfast – River Lagan, Dublin – River Liffey and Coleraine – River Bann</li> <li>• Be able to label and draw the following lines of latitude on a globe - North Pole, South Pole, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, Arctic circle , Antarctic circle and The Greenwich Meridian</li> <li>• Be able to locate cities using lines of latitude and longitude</li> <li>• Be able to identify and describe the 3 ways of showing height on a map eg layer colouring, spot heights and contour lines</li> <li>• Know what is a symbol and know the names and drawings of the main OS symbols</li> <li>• Four figure and six figure grid references</li> <li>• Be able to draw a plan of a room eg and know that architects draw plans</li> <li>• Be able to work out the scale 1 :50,000 which is 1 cm equals ½ km</li> </ul>
Resources needed for the Exam	<b>Blue or black pen, pencil, colouring pencils, ruler and eraser.</b>



# History

Subject	History
<b>Year 8</b>	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>Keywords</u></b></li> <li>2. <b><u>Evidence:</u></b> Know about and be able to give examples of physical, written, oral and visual evidence.</li> <li>3. <b><u>Chronology and competition for the Throne in 1066:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain why there was a competition for the throne of England in 1066.</li> <li>• Explain who the 3 main claimants to the throne were (Harald Hardrada, William of Normandy, Harold Godwinson).</li> <li>• Understand what happened at the Battle of Stamford Bridge.</li> <li>• Be able to put events from the death of King Edward to William being crowned King in chronological order.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b><u>Battle of Hastings:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand what happened at the battle and give a detailed account on the 'Battle of Hastings.</li> <li>• William's Strengths and Harold's weaknesses</li> <li>• Know why William won and Harold lost</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Normans:</u></b></p> <p>Who they were related to and where did they come from, understand Norman lifestyle- clothes, food, games</p> <p><b><u>Sources:</u></b></p> <p>Primary, Secondary, reliable (truthful) or unreliable and biased (one sided information)</p>
<b>Assessment Details</b>	<b>100% examination</b> <b>1 hour long</b>
<b>Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision work-booklet available to download from shared documents</li> <li>• Exercise book</li> <li>• A5 class booklet</li> </ul>
<b>Types of Questions</b>	<p>Keywords questions were you will be need to know definitions</p> <p>Some short knowledge based questions</p> <p>Explain questions were you will need to give examples and evidence to develop and explain answers. Creative design question – design an election poster for 1066</p> <p>Essay question – be able to write an essay to explain why William won the Battle of Hastings in 1066.</p>



<p><b>Top Tips to be successful</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Download your revision work booklet from shared resources / email</li> <li>● Complete all questions within the work booklet</li> <li>● Check your answers with your teacher and ask your teacher for guidance if you are stuck in any questions in the work booklet.</li> <li>● Once you have completed the work booklet try to learn all of the information included. Think about which revision techniques you learn best by:</li> <li>● Write your notes from the work booklet into flash cards</li> <li>● Use the work booklet to create mind-maps or spider diagrams for each of your topics</li> <li>● Highlight key words in your notes.</li> <li>● Remember you remember around 5% of notes by simply reading notes, you remember 20% by writing notes and speaking your notes out loud or answering questions is shown to be a very effective way to learn. Try giving your completed work booklet to someone and ask them to ask you questions.</li> <li>● Test yourself by trying to write out practice answers when you feel you have fully learnt all topics.</li> </ul> <p><b>During your exam:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Answer all questions, try not to leave any questions blank – attempt all questions and you will pick up more marks.</li> <li>● Try to answer in full and complete sentences and develop and explain your answers fully giving as much detail as you can.</li> <li>● Use paragraphs to organise your essay. In your essay include an introduction and conclusion and remember to stay focused on the question asked. Try to refer directly to the question at the start and end of each paragraph to keep your essay well focused.</li> <li>● If you have time at the end read over and check your answers</li> <li>●</li> </ul>
<p><b>Resources needed for the Exam</b></p>	<p>Pens, rubber, sharpener, pencil, colouring pencils.</p>



## Home Economics

Subject	Home Economics
Year 8	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	Home Economics Safety and Hygiene Getting Ready for Practical Lessons Accidents in the Kitchen/First Aid Food safety, Temperature Control and Cross Contamination Vitamin C Weighing and Measuring Measuring Equipment Food Storage Cookers Sugar Revision of Practical lessons Revision of Keywords
<b>Assessment Details</b>	100% Examination
<b>Resources</b>	Year 8 Home Economics booklet HE Exercise Book
<b>Types of Questions</b>	There will be a range of questions from short answer, fill in the blanks, label diagrams, longer questions to assess understanding and analysis.
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	Helpful advice for completing your HE exam. Remember to use Capital Letters, full stops and commas in all your written work. Also remember to Proof Read your work and take care with spelling.
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	Blue or black pen, (preferably black as this is good practice for official exams) pencil, colouring pencils/pens, ruler and eraser .
<b>Useful Websites</b>	<a href="https://www.nutrition.org.uk/">https://www.nutrition.org.uk/</a> <a href="http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/">http://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/</a>



## ICT

Subject	ICT
<b>Year 8</b>	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	Visual Programming (Scratch) e-Safety
<b>Assessment Details</b>	50% Online Examination 50% Project
<b>Resources</b>	Year 8 ICT Fronter Room Shared Documents Year 8 Christmas Revision Booklet  <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/ict/history_impact_ict/esafety/revision/1/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/ict/history_impact_ict/esafety/revision/1/</a>
<b>Types of Questions</b>	There will be different types of questions ranging from short answer, multiple choice and longer questions to assess understanding and analysis.
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn your revision booklet</li> <li>• Make sure that you can identify key tools in Scratch and what they are used for.</li> <li>• Make sure that you can explain what a program/programming is.</li> <li>• Understand key terms used in programming, for example, "Sequence" and "Variable".</li> <li>• Revise all of the key words relating to e-Safety and Viruses. These are all listed in your Year 8 revision booklet.</li> <li>• Understand the key issues regarding e-Safety</li> <li>• The longer type questions will help you gain higher marks. Add lots of detail and include relevant keywords in your answers.</li> <li>• Create mind maps for the key topic areas to aid memory</li> <li>• Do not leave anything out, attempt all questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	The exam is online and will be completed in your timetabled ICT lesson. You will not need pen/pencil or paper.



## Maths

Subject	Maths
<b>Year 8</b>	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	Compare and order whole numbers Use place value and decimal notation in different contexts, including money Add decimals using mental and written methods Understand and order negative numbers in the context of temperature Round a number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000 Use an estimate to check a result Use the order of operations Measure lengths in centimetres and millimetres Read and interpret scales in different contexts, including time Classify 2D shapes by their properties Calculate the perimeter of simple shapes Calculate or estimate the area of a shape by counting squares Select and use standard metric units of measure Use letter symbols to represent unknown numbers Simplify algebraic expressions by collecting like terms Substitute whole numbers into expressions and formulae Derive a simple formula Solve problems by interpreting data in lists and tables Construct and interpret statistical diagrams, including pictograms and bar charts
<b>Assessment Details</b>	100% Examination
<b>Resources</b>	Year 8 Maths Textbook Maths Exercise Book MyMaths website
<b>Types of Questions</b>	Questions will be very similar in style to the questions in the maths textbook and Halloween assessment.
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	Use My Review section at the end of Chapters 1-3 to help with revision. Use lessons on MyMaths to help revise topics listed above
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	Pencil, ruler, pens, rubber, sharpener, calculator

## PE

PE is a practical assessment and will be based on performance, preparation for PE and participation in class.



## Modern Languages

Subject	Languages – French, Irish & Spanish
Year 8	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	Greetings Classroom objects Numbers 1-31 Age Birthdays Days Months
<b>Assessment Details</b>	This test will assess Reading and Writing skills only. These scores will then be added to your Oral and Listening scores to calculate an overall mark.
<b>Resources</b>	Key notes in class exercise book
<b>Possible types of Questions</b>	Jumbled up phrases to be re-ordered Draw and colour items to show understanding Read and identify whose birthday it is Short comprehension task – write answer in English Numeracy challenge Translations into English Translations into target language Sequencing – days of the week Gap-fill writing task (words provided) Cultural questions (complete in English)
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise key topics thoroughly</li> <li>• Take your time when reading the question</li> <li>• Make sure to answer in the correct language</li> <li>• Copy very carefully if given the word</li> <li>• Proof read and spell check</li> </ul>
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	Blue or black pen, pencil, ruler and eraser. Colouring pencils. Highlighter
<b>Useful Websites</b>	<a href="http://www.languagesonline.org.uk">www.languagesonline.org.uk</a> – FREE <a href="http://www.echalk.co.uk">www.echalk.co.uk</a> – username: stmaryscollege password: echalk



## Music

Subject	MUSIC
<b>Year 8</b>	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	Notation- lines and spaces Lengths of notes- how many beats? Instruments of the Orchestra- four families Carnival of the Animals
<b>Assessment Details</b>	100% Listening Exam- held during Music Class
<b>Resources</b>	Music Exercise Book and Manuscript Book Revision notes
<b>Types of Questions</b>	There will be a range of questions including questions which will be based on listening to different instruments and to Carnival of the Animals. Types of questions will include filling in missing words, short answer questions and longer questions to assess musical listening skills. There will also be a question on NOTATION (writing musical notes).
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study all revision notes carefully.</li> <li>• Be able to write notes on the music stave.</li> <li>• Know the notes on the LINES and the SPACES.</li> <li>• Know how many beats a semibreve, minim, crotchet and quaver are and know how to draw these notes.</li> <li>• Know the FOUR different families in the Orchestra.</li> <li>• Know FOUR members from each family.</li> <li>• Make sure to listen the different sounds of instruments on website <a href="http://www.sfokids.org/classic">www.sfokids.org/classic</a>.</li> <li>• Study all information given on Carnival of the Animals.</li> <li>• Know the instruments that represent the 7 main animals.</li> <li>• Good luck and revise carefully! Ask your class teacher to explain anything you are unsure of.</li> </ul>
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	Pen , pencil and rubber and good listening skills!!





## Religious Studies

Subject	Religious Studies
Year 8	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	The Truth Badge The Baptism of Jesus Symbols of Baptism The Books of the Bible Abraham and Sarah The Annunciation Mother Teresa
<b>Assessment Details</b>	100% Examination
<b>Resources</b>	Year 8 Religious Studies Revision booklet RE Exercise Book
<b>Types of Questions</b>	There will be a range of questions from short answer, multiple choice, fill in the blanks, label diagrams, longer questions to assess understanding and analysis. There will also be a question in which you will have to write a newspaper report.
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn your revision booklet</li> <li>• Create mind maps for the key topic areas to aid memory</li> <li>• Make sure that you know the history of the Truth badge and what it means to St Mary's</li> <li>• Make sure that you know the events surrounding the Baptism of Jesus</li> <li>• Make sure that you are able to can identify the symbols of baptism and can explain how they are used in the ceremony.</li> <li>• Make sure that you understand the difference between the Old and New Testaments and know how to find the different Books of the Bible.</li> <li>• Make sure that you can recall the story of Abraham and Sarah.</li> <li>• When revising Mother Teresa, think about how difficult it is to answer God's call in the modern world.</li> <li>• Good luck and everything you need for the Exam is in your Revision booklet so make sure that you make good use of it.</li> <li>• The report and the longer type questions will help you gain higher marks to get an A grade.</li> <li>• Spend time on the longer evaluation and analysis questions.</li> <li>• Make sure that you know what each question is worth e.g. 5 Marks, develop your answer to make sure you have made enough points to gain full marks.</li> <li>• If a question is worth 1 mark a very short sentence or one or two words if appropriate will be enough to gain the mark.</li> </ul>
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	Blue or black pen, pencil, ruler and eraser.
<b>Useful Websites</b>	RE Department Fronter Room <a href="http://www.Biblegateway.com">www.Biblegateway.com</a>



## Science

Subject	Science
Year 8	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazard Symbols</li> <li>• Apparatus including the Bunsen Burner Interpreting graphs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How we see               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shadows</li> <li>• The eye</li> <li>• Reflection and refraction of light</li> <li>• lenses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Assessment Details</b>	Written Test Duration: 1 Hour
<b>Resources</b>	Science Text book Good Luck



## Technology & Design

Technology and Design	
Year 8	
<b>Revision Topics</b>	STEM Health and Safety in Technology Spagetti Tower Structures Frisbee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• material used polystyrene</li> <li>• production method vacuum forming</li> <li>• removing waste material gerbil cutter</li> <li>• finishing plastic emery paper</li> </ul> Pencil Case: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• materials used plywood and acrylic</li> <li>• gluing PVA wood glue</li> <li>• band facer</li> <li>• finishing wood sanding and waxing</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment Details</b>	1 hour Approximately 30 questions including a design question – <a href="#">design a SHAMPOO BOTTLE</a>
<b>Resources</b>	Exercise book Practical products which have been taken home
<b>Types of Questions</b>	Short answer Sketching Design Question
<b>Top Tips to be successful</b>	Don't miss timetabled classes as you will be revising with your teacher – ask your teacher for help if you don't understand a topic Revise topics above at home also Read all questions carefully Attempt all questions Sketch carefully Keep an eye on your time and make sure to finish the paper Keep calm and do your best
<b>Resources needed for the Exam</b>	Pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, colouring pencils
<b>Useful Websites</b>	Fronter resources & shared documents (including photographs) <a href="http://www.technologystudent.com">www.technologystudent.com</a> BBC Bitesize



