

Science Faculty: Assessment, feedback and homework policy September 2024

Assessment and feedback overview

The aim of this policy is that all classes have consistent, regular and good quality feedback with assessments providing sufficient evidence for CLGs.

The feedback summarised below, and provided in more detail later in this document, is the **only written feedback that is expected** to be provided by teachers in the science faculty. Teachers will of course continue to provide other forms of feedback in lesson such as verbal, peer-assessed and self-assessed.

The written feedback will principally comprise:

- For Year 7 and 8: the module assessments will be marked using feedback grids. The end of year test will be marked and feedback will be provided using a standard faculty proforma grid.
- For GCSE students, “skill checks” which will focus on key subject skills that students will need for their examinations. A feedback grid for each assessment will be provided. Formative assessments, such as CAT tests and PPEs, will be marked and feedback will be provided using a standard faculty proforma grid.
- For A level subjects, feedback will comprise a range of assessments according to the needs of each subject (further details later in this document). Formative assessments, such as CAT tests and PPEs, will be marked and feedback will be provided as appropriate to the subject.

In line with the Denbigh Teaching and Learning Code, there will be a visual scrutiny of books at least once per half term with the aim to raise expectations that students take pride in their work. A simple tick box grid will be provided for pupils to attach to the inside of their books that teachers will use to provide feedback. This applies to Years 7 to 11 only.

Homework

For Y7 to 11, centralised weekly homework will be set using Educake to ensure consistent and regular homework for all students. Teachers may choose to set additional homework if they consider it beneficial to students.

Homework for Y12 -13 should still be provided in line the Teaching and Learning Code. There is no requirement for this to be marked (other than the recording of completion for progress reports). It is recommended that homework should consist of either self-marking or self-assessed questions.

Year 7 and 8

1 End of Year test will supplement the module assessments that occur throughout the year. The end of year paper will include foundation level questions from relevant GCSE papers.

Year 9

This will include

- Term one CAT (2 short tests):
- Term two CAT (2 tests)
- End of year assessments (3 tests, one for each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

All of the above will be prepared using past examination questions.

Students will also undertake key skill checks focussing on skills they need for their subject.

Year 10:

This will include

- Term one CAT (3 tests):
- Term two CAT (3 tests)
- PPE (6 tests – 2 one for each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

All the above will be prepared using past examination questions.

Students will also undertake key skill checks focussing on skills they need for their subjects.

Year 11:

This will be broken down as follows:

- Term one CAT (3 tests):
- PPE (6 tests – 2 one for each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Term 2 (6 mini CAT tests)

All the above will be prepared using past examination questions.

Students will also undertake key skill checks focussing on skills they need for their subjects.

Sixth form

- An initial test is undertaken by students when beginning the course.
- Over the course of the 2 years, pupils must undertake at least 12 PAGs which will be marked with feedback provided using the OCR feedback grids.
- Students receive feedback regularly throughout the year. This may include feedback on homework, marked exam questions and CAT tests.
- PPE exams are taken in all subjects in both year 12 and year 13.