

Year 9

**Mid-Year
Assessment
Countdown
Booklet
2025/26**

Head of Year
Mrs Liddle

Respect | Enthusiasm | Ambition | Determination | Resilience



Irlam and Cadishead Academy

The best in everyone™

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A Message from Mr Smith

Dear Student,

Year 9 Mid-Year Assessment

This booklet has been put together to help you prepare fully for your Y9 Mid-Year Assessments which are taking place from the 12th January -16th January. These are important exams which your teachers will use to see whether you are working towards your full potential and to identify areas where you may need support to do so. As a result, it is critical that you prepare yourself fully to show your best on these assessments.

Use the following pages to form a revision timetable which will ensure you have looked over all the relevant information before your exam. If you are not sure about any of the topics or content listed then please speak to your teacher and ask for more guidance. They will be happy to help!

When revising try to use a variety of strategies and formats to help you. This could include making mindmaps, writing out key term definitions (and testing yourself!), doing practice questions on Seneca or Sparx, making flashcards with key facts, watching YouTube videos, and much more. When used together they will ensure you are fully prepared for your assessments. Don't forget to also use your knowledge organisers.

Have a look for more tips on BBC Bitesize by following this link [Top revision techniques for exams - BBC Bitesize](#)

Remember, the effort that you put in will be reflected in your achievements. We are all here to support you to achieve your full potential and if you need any additional guidance or have any concerns please speak to your subject teacher, form tutor, or Head of Year.

All the best,

Mr Smith
Assistant Principal

Top Revision Tips

- **HABIT** - Get into the habit of working in a regular routine.
- **PLAN** - Plan your weekly revision, homework and leisure time on the timetables provided. Make sure you can realistically keep to the schedule that you have planned.
- **PLACE** - Make sure that you work in the best possible environment:
 - The room should be well lit to reduce eye strain
 - Quiet with few distractions – no TV or Phones. Sit on a chair at a table or desk rather than lounging on your bed or so close to a window that you might get distracted.
 - Identify a set time and place for studying – most people study best in the mornings and evenings, but you need to work out the best time for yourself.
- **ORGANISATION**
 - Be fully prepared. Books, paper, pens, drinks etc. should all be organised before you start.
 - Break each subject down into manageable chunks so that you can read over a topic once or twice in about 20 to 30 minutes. If you come across topics that you really don't understand, make a note of them and ask the subject teacher for help.
- **VARIETY** - Get some variety into your revision. Vary your use of revision materials: notes, revision cards, books, websites, podcasts and videos. Keep a record of what you have done in this booklet to make sure you cover all topics and don't avoid the more difficult ones.
 - Begin your revision by re-reading your notes from the previous session. This will improve your recall. At the end of the week revise the whole week's work. Revision should involve checking your notes and writing down the main points may help you learn them more than you would by just reading them.
 - As the exam draws nearer have 'key words' which trigger your memory.
 - Saying things out loud can help you to learn and can improve your use of appropriate vocabulary. It is important to test yourself after each piece of work. Identify some questions you might think will be on the paper and write an outline answer for each one.
- **RELAX** - Try to stop revising at least an hour before you go to bed. Relax to help you sleep. Working late will make you feel tired the next day. Only watch TV programmes that you enjoy rather than to fill in time. Get up early to make good use of your time.
- **HONESTY** - Always be honest with yourself. Teachers can help you but they cannot do the work for you. Ask for help when you need it.
- **PERSEVERE** - Don't give up: it really is not a long time and it will be worth it! Good luck!

English

Reading Assessment – What to Expect

You will complete a 1-hour assessment divided into five short sections that test your reading comprehension, grammar, punctuation and vocabulary. Some questions will be based on a previously unseen text.

The reading sections are:

Essential Technical Knowledge

- **Metaphor**- a comparison between two things that are otherwise unrelated.
- **Personification**- Placing any human qualities on a non-human object.
- **Pathetic fallacy**- Placing emotions on something non-human.
- **Foreshadowing**- hints or clues about events that will happen later in the story.
- **Repetition**- a word, phrase, or idea is repeated to emphasise it.

Punctuation and Grammar

This section of the text will assess your ability to apply grammatical rules – this is similar to the style of reading tests that you have completed throughout the year.

Vocabulary

You will be given a sentence with a word missing. You will choose the most appropriate word from a list to complete the sentence. The words are from the Frayer models that you have studied this year.

Recall

You will answer short questions based on your knowledge of characters and events from both *The Crucible* and *Of Mice and Men*. These questions require brief, specific responses.

English

Example: What trials was *The Crucible* based on?

Your answer would be: *The Salem Witch Trials.*

Method and effect

This section will require you to identify the key terminology in the text and comment on what effect this has on the reader.

Example:

A) What verb is used to describe the weather? Your answer would be: *Swirling*

B) What effect does this have? Your answer would be: *The effect of this word is that the weather is powerful and out of control which makes you feel a sense of mystery about the place and what is going to happen.*

Writing Assessment - What To Expect

You will complete a 1-hour extended narrative writing assessment, marked out of 36. You will need to be creative as you can.

You should include:

- the 'Drop, Shift, Zoom in, Link' + Motif structure
- begin using the sentence starter provided in the assessment
- use a wide range of descriptive and narrative methods to create effective writing
- aim for accurate and controlled spelling, punctuation and grammar
- produce writing that is engaging, creative and well structured

Maths

Mid-Year Calculator Assessment

Unit	Topic	Sparx topics – highlight as you complete these clips using the independent learning function
9.01	Decimal Manipulation	U417, U478, M462, U735, U127, U293, U453, U868, U976
9.02	Estimation and Limits of Accuracy	U480, U298, U731, U965, U225, U657, U587, U108, U301
9.03	Related Calculations	U735
9.04	HCF & LCM of large numbers	U211, U751, U529, U236, U739, U250
9.05	Fraction Calculations	U736, U692, U793, U475, U224, U544, U538, U881, U916, U163
9.06	Algebraic Manipulation	M795, U613, M830
9.07	Index Laws	U105, U622, U103, U437, U685, U457, U824
9.08	Standard Form	M719, M678, GCSE content: U264, U290
9.09	Expanding & Factorising	U179, U365, U768, U178, U963

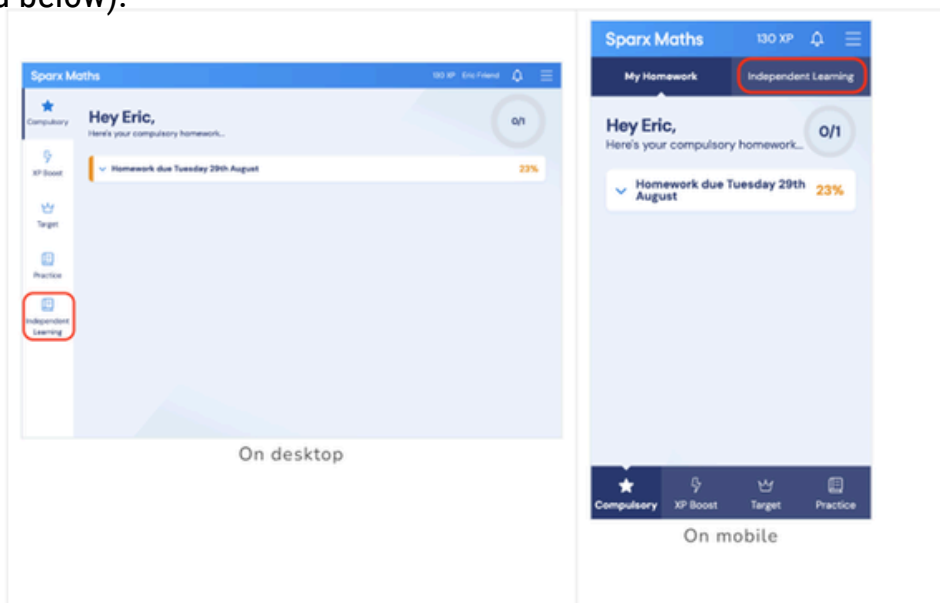
See the next page for how to use Sparx independently if you're not sure...

Maths

Revising Independently with SPARX

STEP ONE: Finding independent learning

When you log in you will see the independent learning feature in the top right hand corner (circled in red below).



You can choose to work on any topic by:

- Typing one of the following in the Search for topics field:
 - The name of a topic
 - A keyword
 - A code given to you in the list on page 5.
- Browse the content by clicking on one of the main Strands.

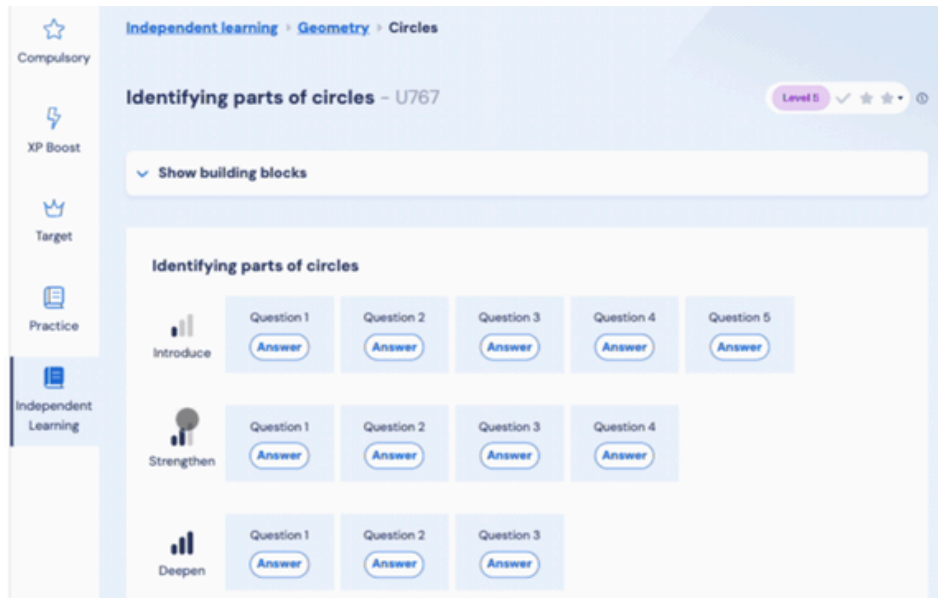
STEP TWO: Choosing the right work

The difficulty level will be in line with that of your normal homework.

You can choose to complete questions that introduce the topic if you don't remember much about it, strengthen the topic if you need a recap or deepen the topic if you are looking to increase your knowledge.

Revising Independently with SPARX

An example of this is shown on the right with the topic of circles.



You will see the difficulty level is set to 5 (in the top right corner) but you can change this if you are finding questions too hard or too difficult.

Science

1 x 60 min exam with a maximum of 60 marks. Students will be permitted to use a calculator for the exam. Skills and knowledge questions based on the topics below.

EXAM TOPICS

9PE - Electricity and Magnetism

- Series and parallel circuits
- current
- potential difference
- resistance and Ohm's law
- resistance in a wire practical
- insulators and static electricity
- magnetic fields
- electromagnets

9CR Reactivity

- Atomic Structure and reactivity
- Reactivity Series
- Displacement reactions
- Reactions with Acids
- Preparing a salt practical
- Properties and uses of metals

9CE - Energetics

- rates of reaction
- effect of concentration, surface area and temperature
- catalysts
- endothermic and exothermic reactions
- combustion
- thermal decomposition

9BB - Biological Systems

- Specialised Cells
- Muscles
- Skeleton

9BE - Ecology

- Food chains and food webs
- Estimating populations
- Adaptations
- Biodiversity

9PF - Forces in Action

- Forces and their effects
- Simple machines and moments

Working Scientifically and Prior Knowledge

- You may also be tested on working scientifically skills. This involves: variables, presenting data in tables and graphs, analysing data from tables and graphs, evaluating scientific experiments for repeatability and reproducibility and suggesting improvements to methodology.
- You may also be tested on knowledge from Y7 or Y8 science

Science

Week	Topic	Revision
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• rates of reaction• effect of concentration, surface area and temperature• Atomic Structure and reactivity• Reactivity Series• Displacement reactions• Reactions with Acids• Preparing a salt practical• Properties and uses of metals	Knowledge Organisers, Year 9 Revision lessons, BBC bitesize, Sparx
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Series and parallel circuits• current• potential difference• resistance and Ohm's law• resistance in a wire practical• Food chains and food webs• Estimating populations• Adaptations• Biodiversity• rates of reaction• effect of concentration, surface area and temperature• catalysts	Knowledge Organisers, Year 9 Revision lessons, BBC bitesize, Sparx
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe how to use a microscope• Calculate magnification• Features of specialised cells• Skeletal system and muscles• Reactivity series and displacement reactions• Calculate moments• Simple machines and examples• Prior knowledge and working scientifically	Knowledge Organisers, Year 9, 8, 7, Revision lessons, BBC bitesize, Sparx

Geography

1 x 60 minute exam.

Topics Covered:

Life in an Emerging Economy

- BRICs and MINTs
- Development indicators
- Urbanisation in emerging economies
- Opportunities and Challenges in NEE cities

Climate change.

Topic: Climate change

- Evidence of climate change
- Human and natural causes
- Greenhouse effect
- Impacts of climate change
- Adaptations
- Mitigation

REVISION

- Complete the revision topics and practice questions set on Seneca
- Use your knowledge organiser for key terms and processes
- Use BBC Bitesize – KS3 Geography – Global Biomes and Tropical Rainforests:
- *Make revision mind maps and notes to supplement your learning.*
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztgw2hv>

History

1 hour exam covering Units 1 and 2 of Year 9 curriculum.

Topics Covered:

Unit 1: World War One

- The main causes of World War One
- The assassination of Franz Ferdinand
- The Schlieffen Plan
- Life in the Trenches

Unit 2: Suffrage

- The role of the Suffragists in getting women the vote
- The role of the Suffragettes in getting women the vote
- The role of World War One in getting women the vote

REVISION

- Complete the revision booklet which will be given to you by your class teacher
- Complete the revision topics and practice questions set on Seneca
- Use your knowledge organiser for key terms and dates

My Revision Planner

Week:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9am							
10am							
11am							
12am							
1pm							
2pm							
3pm							
4pm							
5pm							
6pm							
7pm							
8pm							
9pm							

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2pm							
3pm							
4pm							
5pm							
6pm							
7pm							
8pm							
9pm							

	Monday 12th January	Tuesday 13th January	Wednesday 14th January	Thursday 15th January	Friday 16th January
Period 1 09.00 – 10.00	Science – In Lessons				PRE – In Lessons
Period 2 10.00 – 11.00					
Break					
Period 3 11.15 – 12.15	Language – In Lessons	Maths – In the Sportshall	History – In Lessons	English Writing – In Sportshall	
Period 4 12.15 – 13.15					Geography – In Lessons
Lunch					
Period 5 14.00 – 15.00				English Reading – Sportshall	