

14th October 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to explain how and when we will be assessing Key Stage 3 students at Skinners' Academy.

KS3 Assessment

At Skinners' Academy, we see assessment as an integral part of teaching and learning, and it is inextricably linked to our curriculum.

We use two broad overarching forms of assessment:

- day-to-day in-school formative assessment,
- in-school summative assessment and

Formative assessment of pupils' knowledge and understanding permeates through all of our day-to-day teaching. Some of our approaches for effective formative assessment include:

- Whole Class feedback
- Regular questioning using a variety of evidence-based strategies
- Live marking

In-school summative assessment takes place at the end of a unit of work or at the end of a term/year. It is undertaken as a formal exam conducted in examination conditions. The assessment measures pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills for topics studied within a unit of work or topics across a term/year/key stage. Pupils are given opportunities to revise in preparation for the assessment.

At Skinners' Academy there are two summative assessment points in Key Stage 3:

- Week commencing 28th November 2022
- Week commencing 19th June 2023

After each assessment point, areas of underperformance will be identified with a view to implementing suitable intervention strategies for such subjects. Parents may be contacted to discuss any such intervention strategies and, in particular, how they can best support their son or daughter in this regard.

Parents wishing to know more about assessment and the approaches used at Skinners' Academy should contact Ms Natasha Bell, Vice Principal for Key Stage Three.

Principal: Shereka James
Bsc. (Hons), NPQH

Skinners' Academy
Woodberry Grove, London N4 1SY
Phone: 020 8800 7411 | Fax: 020 8809 1382
enquiries@skinnersacademy.org.uk
  @skinnersacademy

Revision weeks

To support pupils with preparing effectively for summative assessments we have a built in a revision week prior to assessment. During revision week, pupils will be taught how to revise in their respective subject areas and will be introduced to evidence-based revision techniques such as retrieval practice. Pupils will also be provided with revision resources that summarise all the content for the forthcoming assessment. Pupils will be set revision as homework for the whole week.

Yours Sincerely,

Natasha Bell
Vice Principal for Key Stage Three

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