



Hyndland Secondary School

S3 into S4 Transition – Formal Assessment Diet – April/May 2024

This leaflet has been produced to help support our S3 learners and their families as they prepare to undertake their formal assessment diet in April and May 2024. The information below details how young people can prepare for these assessments as well as outlining what the assessments will look like.

Why are we running these assessments?

The majority of these assessments will take place in the Games Hall under SQA exam conditions. This will provide our S3 learners with a valuable 'practice' of sitting formal exams prior to them moving into the Senior Phase (S4). In S4, students will sit their SQA prelims in December, so this will be a good opportunity to experience a formal exam diet.

The assessments will also allow young people to reflect on their progress in S3 and more importantly, identify their next steps in learning for S4.

What will the assessments look like?

For almost every assessment, in most cases we have tried to ensure that young people will sit no more than one formal assessment per day – however there are a few occasions where this was not fully possible.

The assessments will last one hour per subject, with the exception of Maths where young people will sit 2 papers.

The timetable on page 3 of this leaflet details the date and time for each assessment as well as what will be assessed to assist our learners in their preparations for these assessments.

For some students who have an Additional Support Need and require alternative assessment arrangements (AAA), it may be that their timetable is slightly different in terms of timings/dates of assessments so that we can staff this – further information will be given to individual students concerned prior to the exam diet commencing.

Conduct during the exams and instructions for entering the exam hall

It is vital that all learners are **'the best version of themselves'** during the exam diet to ensure that their peers are able to fully concentrate on the exam period.

On the day of each exam, seating plans will be displayed at the main pupil entrance.

Before entering the exam hall, learners should be aware of their seat number.

Upon entering the exam hall, learners must do quietly as other students may already be underway with their exam due to having extra time.

When they enter the exam hall, all bags, jackets, mobile phones and smart watches must be stored at the back of the exam hall.

Learners should come prepared for each exam with a pencil/pen and any other stationery they require e.g. a ruler or calculator if permitted for that subject.

How can young people prepare for these assessments?

Learners should read over their class notes and jotters and take their own notes – this can be done using mind-maps or flash card style notes (see school website).

Completing SQA exam style past papers is also a great way to revise for assessments in S3 and S4. Learners can access SQA past papers and marking instructions at no cost on the SQA website (www.sqa.org.uk)

Learners will be given advice by their teachers on the best way to study for each individual subject.

What happens if my young person is absent for an exam?

Young people should make every effort to be at school for each exam as it will prepare young people for the S4 SQA exams better if they follow the timetable. If however, they are unwell, the school office should be notified on the morning of the exam. A later rescheduled exam will then take place during class time.

If any learner misses an exam due to Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, departments will arrange a follow up exam at a later date and learners involved will be informed of these arrangements by their class teachers.

Why are all subjects not on the exam timetable?

Some subjects will not be running formal exams as they have already overtaken assessments in class recently. Other subjects such as Music, will be running practical performance exams during the diet too.

Subject	Day	Date	Time	Location
Practical Cookery	Wednesday	24th April	8.45-9.45am	Games Hall
Fashion	Wednesday	24th April	1.05-2.05pm	Games Hall
Biology	Monday	29th April	1.55-2.55pm	Games Hall
History	Wednesday	1st May	10.40-11.40am	Department - A106, A107 and A115
Chemistry	Tuesday	7th May	9.35-10.35am	Department - A212, A102, A208 and A106
Business	Wednesday	8th May	11.20-12.20pm	Games Hall
French	Thursday	9th May	8.45-9.45am	Department - L209 and L211
Engineering Science	Friday	10th May	10.40-11.30am	Games Hall
Modern Studies	Monday	13th May	1.55-2.55pm	Games Hall
PE	Thursday	16th May	1.05-2.05pm	Games Hall
Art	Friday	17th May	8.45-9.45am	Department - L203, L204 and L207
Maths	Monday	20th May	8.45-9.45am	Games Hall
Administration and IT	Monday	20th May	1.55-2.55pm	Department - L103 and L104
Geography	Tuesday	21st May	8.45-9.45am	Department - A105 and A106
Maths	Wednesday	22nd May	8.45-9.45am	Games Hall
Spanish	Thursday	23rd May	8.45-9.45am	Department - L209, L210 and L211
Physics	Tuesday	28th May	8.45-9.45am	Games Hall
English	Wednesday	29th May	1.05-2.05pm	Games Hall
Design and Manufacture	Thursday	30th May	8.45-9.45am	Games Hall

