



HIGHFIELDS SCHOOL

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7 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Knowledge Organisers

I am excited to write to you about the introduction of Knowledge Organisers for the subjects taught in Years 7 and 8, which have been produced to support students with their learning in the classroom and independent study at home.

This letter will provide an overview of what Knowledge Organisers are and about how you, as parents and carers, can use these to support your child with their learning.

Research shows that 'knowledge is sticky' – the more knowledge you have, the easier it is to learn new knowledge. If new knowledge is only covered once and is not revisited or revised, it is not stored in the long-term memory. Knowledge Organisers will enable students to revisit prior learning and ensure that it is committed to their long-term memory. Additionally, teachers and parents/carers will be able to support students more effectively with this process of revisiting prior knowledge.

Knowledge Organisers are concise documents that support our knowledge-rich curriculum. They include a summary of the core knowledge, skills and vocabulary in each subject and provide an overview of the learning journey for that term. The information contained on each subject Knowledge Organiser will be the minimum a student should learn in that term. The key vocabulary, facts and information on each Knowledge Organiser will support students' ability to master a topic.

Knowledge Organisers will be available for the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms for Years 7 and 8. In future, they will be shared with students at the beginning of each term, so that they can visualise what will be covered and will be used regularly in lessons to ensure students are continually revisiting prior learning.

Teachers will plan lessons that require a good understanding of previous knowledge. To support students with their learning, lessons will include a range of retrieval tasks and 'low stakes' tests, which will activate prior knowledge. Independent study tasks will focus on students revisiting and revising what they have learned in lesson and the Knowledge Organisers will support this.

As parents/carers, you will be able to use Knowledge Organisers to support your child with their independent study.



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Below, is a range of strategies that you can use to support your child:

- Ensure your child is regularly using their Knowledge Organisers at home when completing independent study and revision.
- Read through the Knowledge Organisers with your child and ask them to explain the content to you.
- Help your child to make mind maps and flashcards of the information.
- Test your child regularly on spellings and meanings of the key vocabulary.
- Test your child on facts and information – can they explain it confidently?
- Test your child on any diagrams – can they explain what the diagram shows?

Our Knowledge Organisers can be found on the school website, under the curriculum dropdown menu [here](#). They are arranged into subjects, year group and term. You can also download termly booklets at the bottom of the webpage.

Please note that some subjects are taught on a rotation, so will only be studied for part of the academic year. You will be able to identify which subjects your child is currently studying by referring to their timetable on MCAS.

I hope that you will find the Knowledge Organisers are a valuable resource to support your child with their learning.

Yours sincerely

MR S FRANCE
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER (TEACHING & LEARNING)