

Using a Knowledge Organiser

A guide for Parents and Carers

What is a Knowledge Organiser?

A knowledge organiser contains some of the important information from a particular topic, summarised in just a few pages. It includes keywords, important facts, diagrams, methods and skills relating to a topic.

It is important to note that a knowledge organiser acts a starting point for revision. Your child should also be using additional resources, as directed by their teacher, to help deepen their understanding.

The benefits of a Knowledge Organiser

- By organising information in a structured manner, KO's can help to reduce cognitive load.
- Can be used to support the retrieval of substantive knowledge.
- Can help students gain a deeper understanding of a subject discipline by providing a clear overview of key themes and concepts.
- Can serve as a valuable tool for revisiting and reinforcing previous learning.
- Can empower students to take charge of their own learning, fostering skills of selfstudy and long-term retention.

How can I support my child?

- Ask your child to make a blank Knowledge Organiser and fill in all of the gaps without looking.
- Quiz your child weekly on key content from the Knowledge Organiser.
- Read through the Knowledge Organiser with your child, if you don't understand the content then ask them to explain it to you, explaining it will help strengthen their learning.
- Ask your child to make a glossary of keywords with definitions.
- Read out sections of the Knowledge Organiser, miss out keywords or phrases and ask them to fill in the gaps.
- Test them regularly on the spellings of key words.



How to use a Knowledge Organiser - 'so students know more and remember more'

	Look, Cover, Write, Check	Definitions to Key Words	Flash cards	Self-Quizzing	Mind Maps
Step I	Study a specific area of your KO.	Write down the keywords and definitions.	Use your KO to condense and write down key facts on information onto flash cards.	Use your KO to create a mini quiz. Write down your questions using the KO.	Create a mind map with all of the information you can remember from your KO.
Step 2	Cover or flip the KO and write down everything you can remember.	Try not to use your KO to help you.	Add images to help support. Then self-quiz using the flash cards. Write a question on one side and the answer on the other side.	Answer the questions and remember to sue full sentences.	Check your KO to see if there are any mistakes on your mind map.
Step 3	Check what you have written down. Correct any mistakes and add anything you missed.	Use a different coloured pen to check your work.	Use a parent or carer to quiz you on the knowledge,	Ask a friend or family member to quiz you using the questions.	Try to make connections that links information together.