




Knowledge Organiser Guide for parents/carers





*“Knowledge is Power. Information is liberating.
Education is the premise of progress, in every society,
in every family.”*

Kofi Annan

Knowledge Organisers

At Westhoughton High School we have created Knowledge Organisers (KOs) to provide clarity around the key facts and essential knowledge our students need to retain in their long-term memory and to increase the awareness of parents and carers so that they are better equipped to support their child with their learning at home. Building this knowledge through years 7, 8, and 9 will allow them to make good progress during key stage 3 and provide them with a strong foundation to achieve well and succeed in their GCSEs.

The content of the KOs, directly links to the planned curriculum in each subject and supports what is being learned in lessons. While the knowledge organisers will be used as part of teaching, it is imperative that our students develop good independent study habits, using them to review, retrieve, and revise the content to ensure it ‘sticks’. Every KS3 student has been issued with a Knowledge Organiser Booklet which will be an essential piece of their school equipment and support them being prepared for learning.

This guide will help you understand what knowledge organisers are, their benefits, and how you can effectively use them to support your child's learning.

Benefits of Knowledge Organisers

- **Clarity:** Provides a clear outline of what needs to be learned.
- **Focus:** Helps students concentrate on the most important information.
- **Memory Aid:** Supports the retention of key facts when regularly reviewed.
- **Study Efficiency:** Enhances study sessions by providing a structured approach to revision.
- **Empowers parents:** Enables parents to assist with learning more effectively.

How to Use Knowledge Organisers at Home

1. Familiarise Yourself with the Organiser

- **Review the Content:** Take some time to read through the knowledge organisers. Understand the key facts, dates, and concepts your child needs to learn.
- **Identify Key Areas:** consider where your child might need extra help and what questions you may use to test their recall.

2. Create a Study Routine

- **Schedule Regular Study Time:** Establish a consistent time each day or a routine for the week where you can help your child to review the knowledge organiser.
- **Short, Frequent Sessions:** Encourage short, frequent study sessions rather than long, infrequent ones. This can improve retention and reduce burnout.

3. Engage in Active Learning

- **Ask Questions:** Quiz your child on the information in the organiser. This can be done verbally or through written quizzes.
- **Discussion:** Have discussions about the topics. Ask your child to explain concepts to you, as teaching someone else is a powerful way to reinforce learning.
- **Flashcards:** Encourage your child to produce flashcards based on their knowledge organisers and use them for quick and interactive review sessions.

4. Use Visual Aids

- **Mind Maps:** Encourage your child to create mind maps that connect different pieces of information from the organiser.
- **Diagrams and Charts:** Use diagrams and charts to visualize complex information, making it easier to understand and remember.

5. Encourage Consistent Review

- **Daily Recap:** Spend a few minutes each day reviewing what was learned. This helps transfer knowledge from short-term to long-term memory.
- **Weekly Summaries:** At the end of each week, summarise the key points covered. This helps reinforce learning and identifies any areas that need more focus.

6. Monitor Progress

- **Track Understanding:** Regularly check your child's understanding of the material. Use quizzes and discussions to gauge their progress.
- **Identify Challenges:** Be attentive to areas where your child struggles and provide additional support or seek help from teachers if necessary.

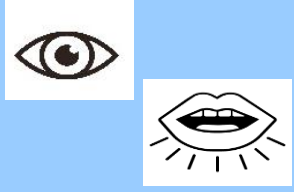


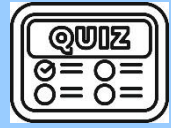







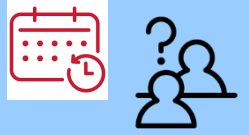



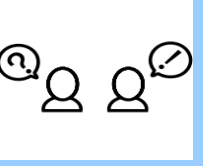

Tips for Success

- **Stay Positive:** Keep the study sessions positive and encouraging. Praise your child's efforts and progress.
- **Be Patient:** Learning takes time. Be patient and provide consistent support.
- **Create a Conducive Environment:** Ensure that your child has a quiet, well-lit space for studying without distractions.
- **Set Realistic Goals:** Help your child set achievable study goals and celebrate when they reach them.

Finally....

Knowledge organisers are valuable tools that can significantly enhance your child's learning experience. By familiarising yourself with these organisers and actively engaging in your child's study routine, you can provide crucial support and help them succeed academically. Consistency, patience, and encouragement are key to making the most out of knowledge organisers. Happy studying!

Recommended Study Techniques to support learning...

	Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check	Key Word Definitions	Flash Cards	Self Quizzing	Mind Maps	Paired Retrieval
STEP 1	<p>Look at and read aloud a specific area of your KO.</p> 	<p>Write down the key words and definitions in two columns.</p> 	<p>Use your KO to condense and write down key facts or information onto flash cards.</p> 	<p>Use your KO to create a mini quiz. Write down your questions relating to the information.</p> 	<p>Create a mind map with the information on your KO.</p> 	<p>Ask a partner, friend or family to use the KO or your flash cards.</p> 
STEP 2	<p>Cover or flip the KO over and write down everything you remember.</p> 	<p>Repeat the above but don't look at your KO</p> 	<p>Add pictures that might help you remember. Then self-quiz using the flash-cards.</p> 	<p>Answer the questions, remember to use full sentences.</p> 	<p>Check your KO to make sure there are no mistakes on your mind map.</p> 	<p>Make sure they test you on different sections of the KO and also on previous topics.</p> 
STEP 3	<p>Check what you have written down. Correct any mistakes and add anything you missed in purple pen.</p> 	<p>Use a purple pen to check and correct your work</p> 	<p>Ask a friend or family member to quiz you on your knowledge.</p> 	<p>Ask a friend or family member to quiz you using the questions.</p> 	<p>Try to make more connections, link the information together where you can.</p> 	<p>Repeat this regularly so that you are frequently looking at KOs past and present.</p> 