

# Year 8 Knowledge Organisers

## An updated guide for parents

### 1) What is the Knowledge Organiser?

The Knowledge Organiser was created to help Year 8 pupils review and retain what they learn in their classes throughout the school year. The idea is based upon recent research about how pupils learn and aims to give them the tools to become independent learners who can direct their own revision.

The Knowledge Organiser contains revision material for 11 subjects studied by your child in Year 8 — most of which have an exam at December and June. There is a checklist at the start of each subject section outlining the topics covered during the year and when they are studied. Behind each subject checklist is the revision material for that subject along with tasks and activities your child can work through. These have been designed by staff at Hazelwood to help pupils better their understanding of what they have learned in class and to help them practice the sorts of questions that might appear on their exams. In some subjects, teachers have also included some short tests pupils can attempt and links to revision videos and websites they can use.

### 2) When should my child bring their Knowledge Organiser to school

Pupils must bring it in on the day they have their weekly Learning for Life and Work lesson and when they are asked to by a subject teacher. This will be recorded in their homework diary so that you know when they have been requested to bring it in. Some pupils may prefer to bring it in every day.

### 3) How long should my child be working on their Knowledge Organiser in the evenings?

Pupils should spend between 30 and 45 minutes on their Knowledge Organiser on week nights, working through the tasks provided.

### 4) Which sections should they do?

Pupils can choose which subject they work on, on any given evening but must ensure that they don't leave out any subject during the course of the week. They should aim to have all of the term 1 topics for each subject completed by the end of term 1 and so on. If you feel your son or daughter might neglect the subjects they find more difficult, you may prefer to help them make a rota showing the subjects to be covered during a week and the nights on which they are going to tackle each.

### 5) Will my child still be set homework?

At times, a subject teacher may ask your child to complete a particular piece of work in the Knowledge Organiser. A teacher may also ask pupils to do a piece of work not contained in the Knowledge Organiser. In both of these instances, pupils will record this in their homework diaries under the supervision of their teachers so that you are aware of what they need to do.

### 6) Will the work be marked?

Subject teachers may mark some of the work in the Knowledge Organiser as it is completed. If a pupil has found a task or section difficult they may wish to ask their teacher for additional help, or for them to look the work done at home. However, pupils will be assessed and receive an assessment grade for each subject at key times of the year as per the Assessment Rota that you have already been sent. The tracking grades sent home by the school throughout the year will allow you to see how your child is progressing in each of their subjects.

### 7) What if my child struggles with the work in the Knowledge Organiser?

If your child is struggling with a particular aspect of their work, they should speak to their subject teacher for help. There is also support available to Year 8 pupils in the mornings before registration, between 8.30 and 9.10 am and from the school's Learning Mentors in Cedar Lodge 1.

### 8) What happens if my child loses the Knowledge Organiser?

If your child loses their Knowledge Organiser they can purchase a new one from Mrs Maltman at a cost of five pounds. Alternatively, you can download the work from our school website.