

HOME LEARNING

A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS



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OVERVIEW

Knowledge is Power.

Francis Bacon 1597

We expect all student to complete an hour of home learning each week day. This should be split into the follow three chunks:



20 Minutes Reading

20 Minutes Maths

20 Minutes Home Learning Booklet

**Knowing stuff is better
than not knowing stuff.**

READING



Accelerated™
Reader



All students in Key Stage 3 have access to the school's Accelerated Reader and MyOn reading programmes. It is expected that students should read independently for 20 minutes every weekday, with some time also allocated in a variety of classroom lessons throughout the week.

Students following Accelerated Reader will choose a book that fits their reading ability.

MyOn is a digital library linked to Accelerated Reader and provides students with a wealth of digital material that they can access on computers, tablets, and smartphones.

Once books have been read through Accelerated Reader or MyOn, students can test their knowledge on the quizzes linked to the books they have read. All students will have a reading record which shows the progress of their reading.

Students can login to both Accelerated Reader or MyOn, with links to these on the school website and student intranet, using the same login details:

Username = Surname and first initial of their first name
Password = password

MATHS

Sparx Maths

Sparx Maths is a home learning tool used by our excellent Maths team to tailor learning and revision to the needs of the student. Using a smart algorithm, Sparx tracks the learning of the student over time via their set tasks and tailors the tasks so that it effectively helps the student to develop the parts of the Maths curriculum they may struggle with.

Sparx is set every Wednesday at 9:00am for Year 7 – Y10 and is due at 4:00pm on Tuesday, whereas for Year 11, Sparx is set on a Monday at 9:00am and is due the following Sunday at 4:00pm.

In order to class your Sparx as being complete for that week, then 100% of the tasks set needs to be completed. Sparx completion is monitored by the Maths team and stickers are put in planners weekly to show whether the student has completed their home learning.

RETRIEVAL

Learning is about improving the ability to retrieve specific information as and when required.

You get better at being able to retrieve information by practising retrieving.

This means trying to make your brain remember the information you've looked at, it is not about copying!

Good retrieval practice involves:

- Reading and processing some given information.
- Then after a short break, cover it up and complete a task that asks you to recall that information. (Some suggested tasks later in the guide)
- After you have completed the task check to see if you missed anything and add this in.
- Each time you repeat a retrieval task you should be aiming to be able to recall more.

RETRIEVAL KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS

Your knowledge organiser is a collection of all the key knowledge essential to making progress in each of your subjects. Your job is to learn this information in your organiser. The more you know the better you will be at using it, applying it, analysing it and solving problems with it in your lessons.

YEARS 7, 8 & 9

Every student will be issued with a Knowledge Organiser and Practice Book each term or half term. Your academy will set out the expectations of how much and how often this should be used.

Students will be quizzed on key aspects of their knowledge organiser in lessons and around the academy.

Teachers may specify certain parts to learn at particular times and may set additional homework tasks to go along side this.

YEARS 10 & 11

In some subjects, students will also be given a knowledge organiser at KS4 and be quizzed regularly. This is at the discretion of the teacher dependent on whether they decide it is beneficial in the lead up to their GCSE's. It is likely KS4 students will also be set additional homework to aid their classwork, such as completing coursework, past exam papers etc.

RETRIEVAL

HOME LEARNING BOOKLET

HOME LEARNING BOOKLETS

Every child in all year groups is given an home learning booklet at the beginning of each half term, these booklets have tasks that specifically focus on key areas in the knowledge organisers across various subjects. This booklet is part of the 20/20/20 home learning plan

YEARS 7, 8 & 9

Every student has a weekly set of tasks across for following subjects: English, Maths, Science, History and Geography, one task per day over the half term. These booklets are checked on the blue line in the morning by staff.

YEARS 10 & 11

Our GCSE cohorts have their own designated home learning booklets with specific tasks designed to enhance their learning based on what they are currently doing in lessons. They are expected to complete home learning booklet tasks each week across the following subjects: English, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, French and/or Spanish, History or Geography.

RETRIEVAL ONLINE



GCSEPod podcasts are designed for mobile devices, so it's like carrying a huge pile of textbooks and revision guides around with you everywhere. It's like an online Knowledge Organiser!

Have an expert read and explain everything for you clearly and precisely with all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams on screen. You won't need to use it for long before you feel the impact. Consistent use in short chunks is proven to support achievement.

Your teacher may create an assignment which will include a playlist of podcasts for you to watch and some questions for you to answer, or you can choose your own pod to watch and then complete a recall task to help you memorise that information.

Username: Full name with no spaces e.g. joebloggs

Password: Date of birth in the eight digit format
e.g. 17052005

RETRIEVAL ONLINE



Languagenut gives you access to all the vocabulary you have been learning in your Languages lessons. You can access it from any device, making it perfect for using it both on the go and when settling down for a longer homework session!

The website and app are jam-packed with loads of different activities to keep your language skills tip-top. Play games on your own or challenge your friends and see who will be victorious!

Practise all four of your key skills – listening, reading, speaking and writing – in the zone dedicated to exam-style questions, perfect for GCSE preparation.

Your teachers will set you assignments to complete and you can deepen your understanding by independently exploring the wealth of knowledge available to you. Every month gives you the opportunity to climb the leader boards and reign supreme!

Username: Surname followed by the first letter of forename
e.g. BloggsJ

Password: Set by class teacher

RETRIEVAL ACTIVITIES

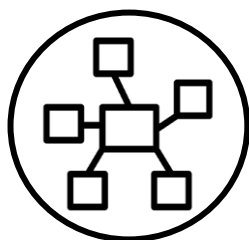
3 Golden Rules

**Never copy. All ways cover up first.
Leave some time to forget.
Get feedback on how well you did.**



QUIZZING

Get someone to ask you questions about what you have just read or watched. Write the questions yourself before or just after you look at the information. Can you still answer them the next day?



MIND MAP

Condense the information you have read or watched into a mind map diagram. Include as many key words as possible and get the links. What leads to what? Which bits go together?



SKETCH NOTES

Produce a poster or set of 'sketch notes' linking diagrams with key facts. Can you get the labels in the right place? Can you get the steps in the right order? Have you included all the key words and phrases?

RETRIEVAL ACTIVITIES

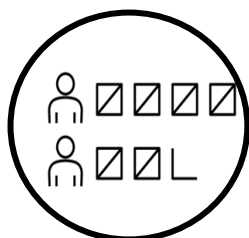
3 Golden Rules

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FLASH CARDS

Read your knowledge organiser or watch a Pod. Then condense the information into a set of Flash cards. Keep it one topic per card. Use these to support future quizzing



COMPARISON TABLE

Structure your notes in to form of a table. Use a column heading to split different columns e.g. events, characters, periods of time, sports. Each row then has a key question to answer for each topic.



SPEAK LIKE AN EXPERT

Challenge your self to speak like an expert for a set amount of time. Can you explain to someone in your family all about that topic from your knowledge organiser or Pod? Can you make sure you include all the key words?

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