Knowledge Organiser Policy
2020/21

Signature:

Head teacher

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Rationale

The curriculum and examinations students take are knowledge based and most are wholly assessed by written examination. Knowledge organisers are used in all KS4 and some KS5 subjects at WSC to focus students on the key knowledge that they need to learn if they are to be successful. In KS5 students may be asked to contribute to the development of knowledge organisers as a learning tool.

Knowledge organisers support students when memorising by providing them with the essential information they must learn in each of their subjects. The most effective way to use a knowledge organiser is for self-quizzing. This is a retrieval practice strategy that has proven impact on student learning.

![Testing vs Studying](image.png)

Testing = retrieval practice, self-quizzing
Studying = making flashcards, posters, reading, reviewing.

https://knowledgeplus.nejm.org/blog/what-is-the-testing-effect-and-how-does-it-affect-learning-knowledge-and-retention/

Use and expectations

All students carry a Knowledge Organiser folder and a 100% book with them at all times. Students are expected to get them out of their bag at the start of the lesson along with their pen, pencil, and ruler.

Each subject provides a booklet of the knowledge organisers a student will need in each year. If a student loses or damages their knowledge organiser or knowledge book they must replace it by photocopying the master copy stored in the library.

Subject areas number the sections on the knowledge organisers to aid students when targeting information they need to memorise as identified by department PLCs (personal learning checklists).
Knowledge organisers are used in all subject areas for homework and are referred to in lessons.

The most common uses are:

- Self-quizzing (Look, cover, check, test)
- Self-quizzing using flashcards
- Targeted quizzing to close gaps as identified on PLC
- To support completion of practice questions
- Low stake quizzes
- Revision tool guide
- Success criteria
- Checklist for confidence
- Plenaries
- Teaching tool