



# The Knowledge Curriculum

## Homework as Revision

### Aim

The aim of 'Homework as Revision' is that students learn the key facts of a topic over the 5-7 years they spend with us at John Port Spencer Academy. This takes away the need for 'cramming' before exams.

### Advantages

The advantages of this are that students learn key facts, dates, characters, concepts and precise definitions for each topic of each subject. They then know key content for exams, removing the need for cramming.

Students know their homework for the entire year.

When students are off school they can work on their homework.

### How it works

Students will be given Knowledge Organisers by their teachers. They are each 1 single page of A4 detailing the exact facts, dates, characters, concepts and precise definitions that all students are expected to master in long term memory - the most vital, useful subject content for each unit of work.

There are 6-10 of these knowledge organisers per year per subject. The knowledge organisers are designed and written by the teachers of the subject.

Students are required to learn facts from a page of a Knowledge Organiser for 30 minutes on their homework night by self-quizzing. They are then tested on this during the next lesson.

### Self-quizzing

Homework is self-quizzing - **cover write check** the facts on the knowledge organiser for 30 minutes for each of the two subjects on that night's homework schedule. Students write their self-quizzing in the practice books which are checked by the teacher the next lesson. The self-quizzing should be of sufficient **quality** and **quantity**.

Quantity - 1 whole page of the practice book, no spaces

Quality - neat and accurate, in black or blue pen with mistakes corrected in red pen.

### Checking homework

Teachers will check the practice books of the students the day after the homework. If the self-quizzing is insufficient in quantity or quality, students will complete a 30 minute self-quizzing catch up. This will be done in a detention at break time and/or lunchtime, following the X system.



## Testing

In order to find out if the facts have been learnt, the teacher will also test students the lesson after the homework. These tests are 'no stakes' tests i.e. they do not count towards any progress checks. The reason for the test is to check that students are not simply writing out a page of facts without learning them.

Once marked, teachers are able to divide students into 3 groups; those who struggled, those who passed and those who excelled. Support can be provided for students who struggled, extension activities for those who excelled

## What students need

**Knowledge organisers.** These are designed and written by the teacher of the subject. There are 6-10 for each subject. Knowledge organisers are kept with the student at all times, both at home and at school.

**Knowledge folders** - to keep their knowledge organisers in. Each knowledge organiser should be placed into a plastic wallet. Folders and plastic wallets should be provided by the student.\*

**Practice books** (normal exercise books). These will be provided by the tutor. They can be hole-punched and kept in the knowledge folder.

## Homework timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
**Maths	English	History	Science	Geography
MFL	Mu/Drama	**Art	Technology	PE

*\*\* maths homework will also be maths practice, art homework may be a creative activity rather than self-quizzing*

The homework timetable is for all year groups. If students do not have the lesson on that day, they can still self-quiz on the section indicated by their teacher in a previous lesson. The no stakes test will take place during the first lesson after the homework.

## Glossary

Knowledge organiser: A4 sheet of facts that must be learnt. 1 per topic.

Knowledge folder: all the knowledge organisers together.

Self-quizzing: cover, write check until learnt.

Practice book: exercise book in which students do their self-quizzing.

No stakes test: a test that does not count towards any performance data.

*\*Students in receipt of Pupil Premium funding will have a folder and plastic wallets provided for them.*