



Ian Ramsey Church of England Academy

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Dear Parents/Carers,

A NEW WAY OF COMPLETING HOME LEARNING (HOMEWORK) FOR YEAR 11

To help support pupils to be successful in their GCSE examinations in the summer, after October half term Year 11 pupils will be moving on to a new way of completing their home learning tasks. I would be grateful if you could please take the time to read this letter carefully to ensure your child is fully supported in this new way of working.

What is changing?

Previously, pupils have been asked to complete individual tasks set by the teachers, which could vary from subject to subject. From after October half term, all Year 11 pupils will move to use online knowledge organisers for their homework and be tested on their understanding of what they have learned every lesson in class. A knowledge organiser is a two-sided document which contains the basic information pupils need to know to be successful in their GCSE assessments.

How will this be done?

Pupils will be given a link to access a website where all their knowledge organisers can be found. This link can be found on the school website. Tasks to complete based on the knowledge organisers will be posted as normal by their class teacher on Google Classroom. A video showing how to access the knowledge organisers and complete the tasks will be available for you and your child to view on the school website. **Please note the page on the school website containing help videos and the link to access knowledge organisers will not be live until Monday 1st November 2021** when pupils return to school after half term.

My child does not have a laptop, tablet, or Chromebook. What should I do?

We understand that some pupils may not have access to an electronic device to complete their home learning tasks on. Where pupils have a laptop or tablet where they can access both the knowledge organiser **and** the task on Google Classroom, we are asking these pupils to complete the tasks electronically. Where a pupil can access the knowledge organiser, but do not have a device to complete the tasks online, pupils should ask for a paper copy of the task. Where a pupil does have access to the knowledge organisers and the tasks, pupils should ask their teacher for a paper copy of both the knowledge organiser **and** the task. **Please note it is the pupils' responsibility to let their teachers know if they require paper copies of any resources.**



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How will my child's teacher know they have completed the home learning?

Pupils will be tested on their understanding of the knowledge organiser each lesson in class. If a pupil continually does not perform on their retrieval starter activities over the course of a few lessons, the teacher may question them on their home learning and whether this is taking place and issue a sanction if required.

How will my child know what to complete and when?

Pupils will receive a copy of a home learning timetable (attached) which allocates one hour per night to a subject or 30 minutes per night where two subjects have been indicated. Pupils should follow this timetable until the end of the year. The tasks they need to complete using their knowledge organisers will be indicated by their teacher on Google Classroom as normal.

What can I do to help my child to prepare to use knowledge organisers after half term?

To support your child, please ensure they know their Google Classroom username and password. If they are unsure, please ask them to contact the IT support department in the Academy who can be found next to reception. Please also ensure your child knows whether they have the facilities to access their knowledge organisers and tasks at home or whether they need to request paper copies when they return to school after the half term break. Pupils should ask their teachers if they are unsure of any aspect of the process.

Where can I get further help in supporting my child with this new way of completing home learning?

Instruction videos about the new way of working and how to access and use knowledge organisers can be found on the Academy website. These are step by step guides made for pupils and parents showing what needs to be done and how to do it.

Why is Bedrock Vocabulary not on the home learning timetable?

Pupils will continue to use Bedrock Vocabulary as normal however this will be monitored through form tutors and will not form part of their home learning timetable.

Is it only Year 11 that will be using knowledge organisers for home learning after half term?

After October half term, Year 7 and Year 11 pupils will be using knowledge organisers. Other year groups will be moved onto this new way of working by January 2022. All preparation for this will be done in school.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your continued help, support, and patience as we move towards this new way of completing home learning. We wholeheartedly believe this will enable all pupils to continue to be successful and achieve their true potential.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs M McCarthy
Assistant Headteacher