Welcome- Year 7 Curriculum Evening



The Schedule for this evening:

- Introduction/ Key Dates
- Maths Curriculum Presentation
- English Curriculum Presentation
- Science Curriculum Presentation
- The Importance of Attendance
- Key Stage Three Assessment
- Revision Strategies



Key Dates



Autumn Term:

8th October- Settling in report shared 9th October- Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening 16th October- Year 7 Disco 6-7.30pm 18th December- Christmas concert

Spring Term:

28th January- Year 7 Progress reports shared

Summer Term:

13th April- 24th April- Year 7 Assessment Weeks 13th May- Progress reports shared 21st May- Parent Consultative Evening 27th April 2026 to 1st May 2026- Cultural Week 13th- 16th July- Rewards week and trips



Pastoral Support



- We have a fantastic pastoral team to support students in Year 7; your child's Tutor, their Assistant Head of Year, myself, their teachers and our SEND and Pupil Premium teams.
- If your child is on our SEND register, Learning Plans for these students are distributed to all of your child's teaching staff to ensure that they are aware of their needs.
- Parents and carers can access these learning plans through Edukey / Provision Map, and you can comment in real-time.
- Targets are reviewed 3 times per year this can be through the Edukey site, and we are also available for appointments during all consultative evenings.
- If your child has Free School Meals, we can support them by subsiding a wide range of extra curriculum activities, from trips, breakfast club, sports fixtures and prom, as well as providing equipment and uniform where needed. We also support individual students with their academic progress across a range of year groups and subjects.
- If your child has not yet signed up for a lunch time or after school club, we highly recommend encouraging them to do so. All our clubs are shared on our school website, on our 'Clubs and Activities' page.



Welcome to Year 7 Maths



Curriculum map

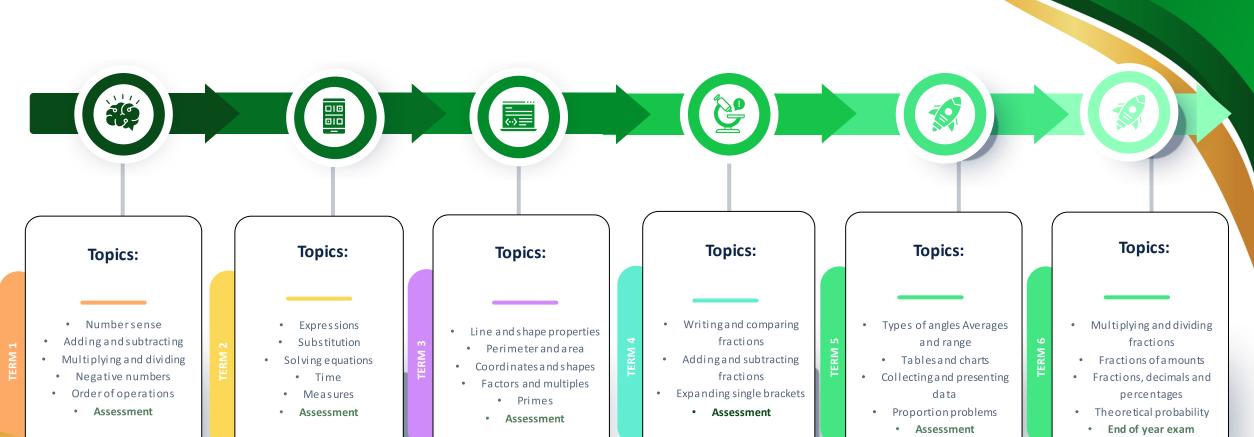
Use of online platforms and how parents can support at home

Importance of numeracy





Road Map for Mathematics: Year 7



Achieving Excellence

Sparx Maths

Your 2024/2025 highlights





Students at

The Appleton School

completed

15,605 hours

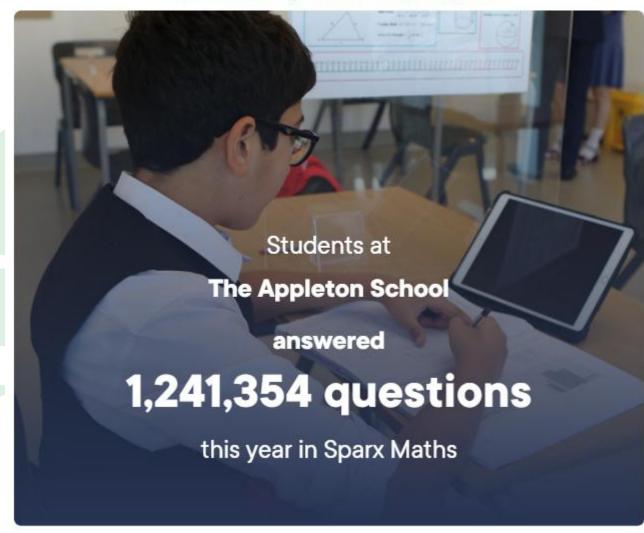
of learning this year in Sparx Maths



Sparx Maths



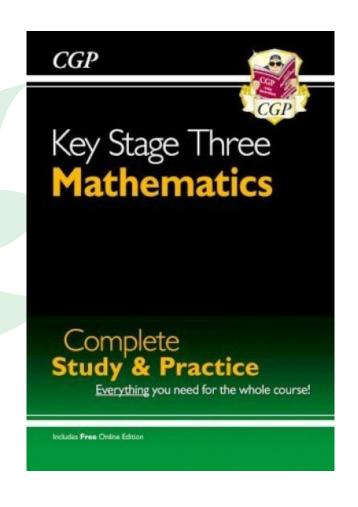
Your 2024/2025 highlights





Independent study resources







The effects of poor numeracy



People with low numeracy are more than twice as likely to face unemployment

Good numeracy is linked to positive financial behaviours such as saving frequently and keeping on top of bills

Pupils starting school with low numeracy are more likely to face school exclusions

Students with poor maths skills are more than twice as likely to truant

65% of adult prisoners have numeracy skills below an 11-year-old





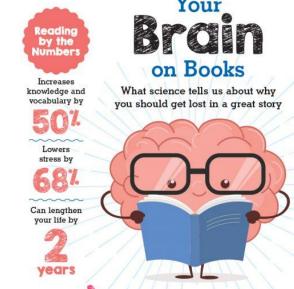
The Importance of Reading



Reading



Research continually demonstrates that students with higher levels of Reading and Literacy proficiency are more successful in school, but also have better wellbeing and improved life chances.



Books your mood Studies show that



people who read for fun

are more likely to feel

happy and confident

minute you're reading



Whether you're starting a book club or bonding over Wimpy Kid with a friend, you'll be part of a reading community



Reading exercises the brain, improving your memory. (Maybe you'll stop forgetting your lunch at home!)



Imagination Books help you see vivid pictures in your mind. So you feel like you're actually at Hogwarts, riding a Nimbus 2000.



Heart Research shows that reading about a character's thoughts and feelings can make you kinder.

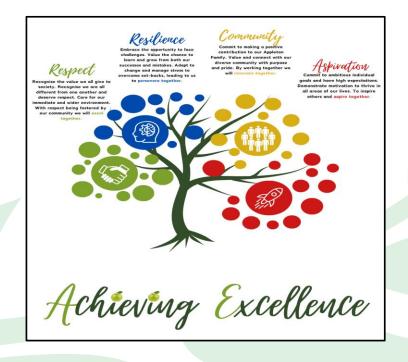
■SCHOLASTIC

Table 2: Reading frequency and reading attainment in 2012 (N = 13.710)

	Below expected level %	At expected level %	Above expected level %
Every day	3.7	68.3	28.1
A few times a week	7.1	81.7	11.2
About once a week	13.6	78.4	8.0
A few times a month	14.1	78.8	7.1
About once a month	18.9	72.2	8.9
Rarely	25.1	67.0	7.9
Never	36.2	59.3	5.4







Studies have found that reading for pleasure enhances empathy, understanding of the self, and the ability to understand one's own and others' identities

One in four children haven't reached the expected level of reading by the age of 11. Many of these children will struggle to keep up at secondary school.

By Year 11, the reading skills of children from disadvantaged backgrounds are on average almost three years behind those from the most affluent homes

16-year-olds who choose to read books for pleasure outside of school are more likely to secure managerial or professional jobs in later life.

Low levels of literacy cost the UK an estimated £81 billion a year in lost earnings and increased welfare spending, impacting on 'the success of the economy as a whole'. Per capita incomes are higher in countries where more adults reach the highest levels of literacy proficiency.

Adults with lower levels of literacy are more likely to believe that they have little impact on political processes, and are less likely to participate in voting.

Studies have shown that those who read for pleasure have higher levels of self-esteem and a greater ability to cope with difficult situations.



Reading Age Testing and Reporting



At the start of the school year, we test every child's reading age. The outcome of this test enables us to put students into reading bands. Teachers use reading band information to support and challenge learners across the curriculum. You can see personalised next steps for your child on their reading report.

Purple	MORE THAN ONE YEAR ABOVE ACTUAL AGE
Pink	ONE YEAR ABOVE ACTUAL AGE
Green	ON TARGET - READING AGE IN LINE WITH ACTUAL AGE
Orange	ONE YEAR BELOW ACTUAL AGE
Red	MORE THAN ONE YEAR BELOW ACTUAL AGE



SPARX



We use a programme called Sparx to complete our reading age testing, but also to support students in developing their reading and vocabulary skills throughout the year.

Students can select a book from over 50,000 titles and adapt the formatting of the page to suit their needs.

Students earn points (SRP) for each question they answer. We expect students to earn 300 SRP a week, which equates to around 30 minutes of focused reading. This is set as homework and is monitored by English teachers.





Reading Rewards



When students reach the milestone of 50 achievement points, at the end of that term they'll be given a token for our reading vending machine.



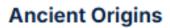
We also use reading journals within English to encourage students to read for pleasure. Rewards are given when students reach the milestones of 5, 10 and 15 books.





KS3 Curriculum Overview





Yr7 starts with an introduction of how stories have shaped who we are. This is done through the study of creationist myth, Heroes and forgotten voices.

Twelfth Night

Spring term moves to the study of a play by Shakespeare. Here pupils will have the opportunity to study a whole play and encounter literary themes such as love and relationships, gender, appearance and reality.

Summer Term moves to the study of a modern dystopian novel. Here pupils will develop their literacy skills through evaluation and begin to craft their own stories through imaginative writing.

The Hunger Games



Term 2+3 Term 4+5 Term 1+2

Vocabulary and Wider Reading



Visit the English and Reading/Literacy sections of our school website for further resources to support your child, including vocabulary booklets and wider reading lists.

DOCUMENTS

- English Curriculum Overview
- English Terminology Booklet

DOCUMENTS

- Cross Curricular Wider Reading List
- Encouraging Reading List
- 🟃 <u>Aspirational Reading List</u>





Science Curriculum Information



Science



"Science helps us to answer our biggest questions and to meet our most basic needs: from explaining the deepest mysteries of the universe to the structure of elementary particles that form atoms. The findings of science have fundamentally shaped every aspect of our world. Science drives innovation, creating new knowledge to help us solve current and future problems. All young people are entitled to a high-quality science education, to the curiosity it engenders and the understanding and the opportunity it brings."

Finding the optimum: the science subject report

Published 2 February 2023 Ofsted GOV.UK



Life on Mars? 'Leopard-spot' rocks could be biggest clue yet



The rocks are covered with unusual markings that look like leopard spots

Unusual rocks discovered on Mars contain the most tantalising evidence yet of potential past life on the Red Planet.

The mudstones, found in a dusty riverbed by Nasa's Perseverance Rover, are dotted with intriguing markings nicknamed Leopard spots and poppy seeds.

Scientists believe these features contain minerals produced by chemical reactions that could be associated with ancient Martian microbes.

It's possible the minerals were produced by natural geological processes, but at a press conference Nasa said the features could be the clearest signs of life ever found.



Million-year-old skull rewrites human evolution, scientists claim



China makes landmark pledge to cut its climate emissions





Road Map for Science: Year 7

The KS3 science course includes Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students are assessed throughout by end of topic assessments











Topics:

Skills in Science B1.1 Cells C1.1 Particles and their behaviour

Baseline assessment End of topic tests

Topics:

P1.1 Forces

B1.2 Structure and function of body systems

End of topic tests

Topics:

C1.2 Elements, atoms and compounds

P1.2 Sound

End of topic tests

Topics:

B1.3 Reproduction

Revision for assessments End of topic tests

Topics:

C1.3 Reactions

Assessment weeks End of topic tests

Topics:

P1.3 Light

C1.4 Acids and Alkalis P1.4 Space

End of topic tests

Achieving Excellence



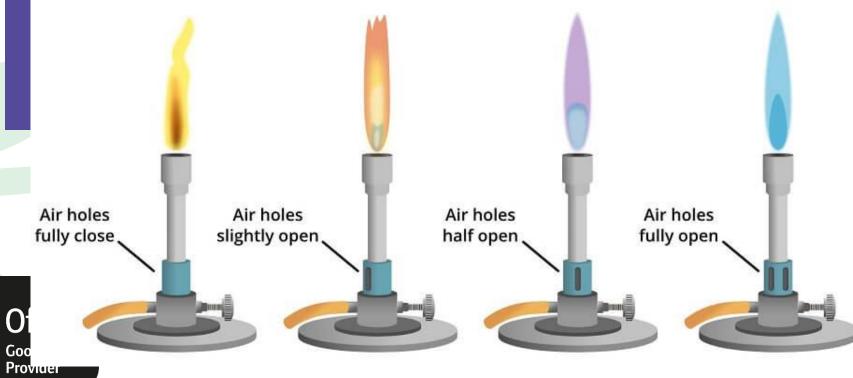




stand up

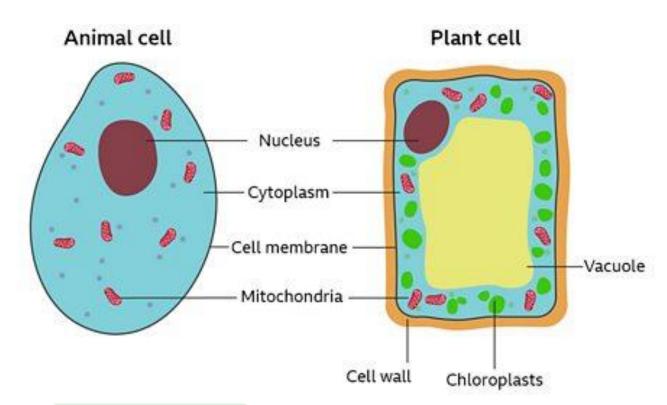




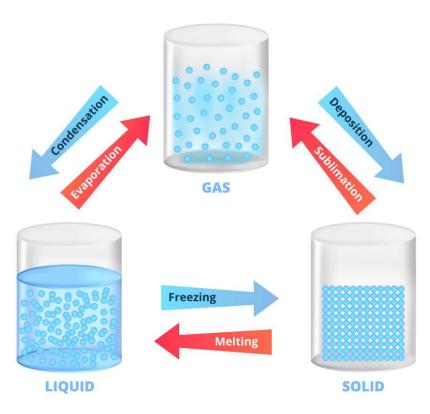




Currently Learning



CHANGING STATES OF MATTER



Cells –

- What are cells?
- Cell structures and their function
- Comparing plant and animal cells

States of Matter –

- What are the three states of matter?
- How does the arrangement of particles vary between states?
- How can substance change state?



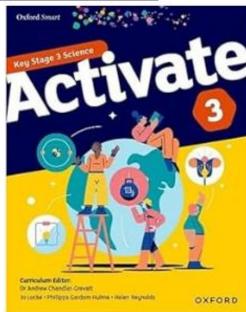
Scheme of Work









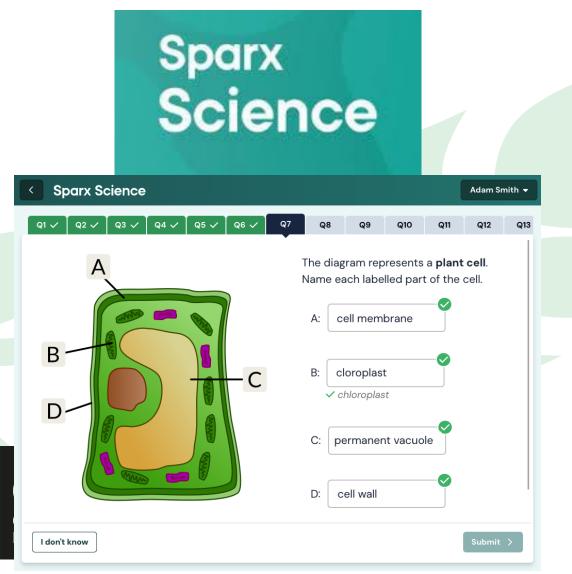




We follow the Kerboodle Scheme of Work



Sparx Science Homework



- Auto marking- students receive feedback immediately
- Algorithm adapts to students
- Provides opportunity to repeat questions which challenge students
- Set every Wednesday and due the following Tuesday.
- Students need to score 100% for HW to be completed

Desirable Equipment



White board pen

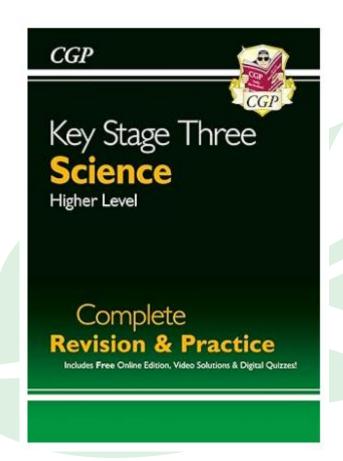
Green pen

Scientific Calculator





To Practise



To Recap/Revisit a topic

- Oak National Academy
- 'Cognito' available on You Tube

To Practice

- Sparx Science
- KS3 Bitesize
- KS3 SENECA
- Free KS3 Science Online 10 Minute Test from CGP
- Oak National Academy

Revision Guide

 CGP Key Stage Three Science Complete Revision and Practice



Getting Involved...



March – British Science Week Poster Competition

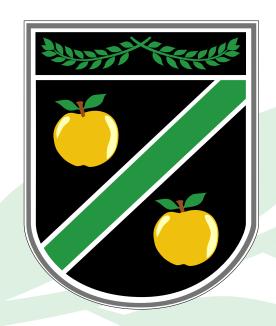
Summer Science school trip!!!

Every Wednesday After school with Mrs Starling in T32









The Importance of Attendance



The Importance of Attendance: Building Resilience, Reliability and Success



Why is attendance and punctuality so important?

Every school day contributes to your child's learning journey. When students attend regularly and arrive on time, they benefit from:

- •Structured Learning: Lessons build on prior knowledge. Missing even one day can interrupt understanding, though we appreciate that occasional absences may be unavoidable.
- •Cognitive Development: Consistent participation strengthens memory, focus, and problem-solving skills.
- •Social Growth: Being present supports friendships, teamwork, and a sense of belonging.
- •Confidence and Independence: Arriving on time fosters responsibility and helps establish positive routines.



The Importance of Attendance

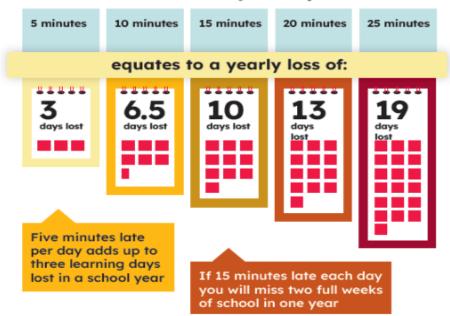


Irregular attendance and the impact on learning and success.





Minutes lost per day





The Importance of Attendance



NHS guidance detailing – how ill does your child need to be to stay off school?



Go to school; if needed, get treatment as required

Some restrictions for school attendance

Don't go to school and see the GP

What it's called?	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Asthma flare up	Worsening of usual symptoms	>	Follow your care plan	Stay off school if feeling too unwell
Chicken pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters		Pharmacy	Back to school five days after on-set of the rash, or when all lesions are crusted over
Common cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat	>>	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)	>>	Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading*
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene*
German measles/ Rubella	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards	•	GP	Back to school four days after the rash has started, if feeling well enough. Please let the school know, as pregnant members of staff may be affected.
Glandular fever	High temperature, swollen glands, sore throat; usually more painful than any before	>>	GP	•
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)	>>	GP	Attend school while monitoring symptoms
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)	>>	Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness		GP	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, watery inflamed eyes, rash		GP	Back to school four days from on-set of rash, and if feeling well enough
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy, rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty	>>	Pharmacy	
Scabies	Itching rash, commonly between fingers, wrists, elbows, arm	>>	GP	Back to school after first treatment
Scarlet fever	Fever, unwell, red tongue, sandpaper rash		GP	Exclusion period during first 24 hours of antibiotics*
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash		GP	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/ diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea		Pharmacy	Contact GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus	>>	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsilitis/ Strep throat	Intense sore throat for more than 1 day	>>	Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow . Only need to stay off school if feeling too unwell
Whooping	Violent coughing, with a 'whoop'		GP	Exclusion period during first

*Attend school while monitoring symptoms.

This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals. If you are unsure about your child's wellbeing, we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

Should my child go to school/nursery today?
Hertfordshire and West Essex Healthier Together for further information https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers

Working in partnership with

five days of antibiotics Visit www.nhs.uk for latest









Key Stage Three Assessment



Key Stage 3 Assessment

- 28th January- Year 7 Progress reports shared
- 13th April- 24th April- Year 7 Assessment Weeks
- 13th May- Progress reports shared



What is a step target?

- Your child has been given a step target grade and this will increase by one step every year at Key Stage 3. Steps is a way of monitoring that students are building the core skills and knowledge necessary each year at Key Stage 3, to achieve their target grade at GCSE.
- A step is not equivalent to a GCSE grade, however, achieving a certain 'Step' would mean that students have the necessary skills and knowledge to achieve that grade at GCSE.

	Entry Step	EOY7	EOY8	EOY9	EO KS4 Estimate
Step 9					9
Step 8					8
Step 7					7
Step 6					6
Step 5				7	5
Step 4					4
Step 3					3
Step 2					2
Step 1					1
Pre-Steps					О



Key Stage 3 Assessment

- 28th January- Year 7 Progress reports shared
- 13th April- 24th April- Year 7 Assessment Weeks
- 13th May- Progress reports shared



How are 'Step' target grades calculated?

- These are calculated from Key Stage 2 SAT scores.
- By using national data we are able to calculate GCSE target grades and from this work out the steps your child needs to take at Key Stage 3 in order to reach their full potential at GCSE.

How are 'Step' current grades calculated?

 Subjects assess in different ways. Some subjects will have set an end of topic assessment for students to complete, whilst others will give a current Step grade based on key tasks completed throughout the term.



Key Stage 3 Assessment

- 28th January- Year 7 Progress reports shared
- 13th April- 24th April- Year 7 Assessment Weeks
- 13th May- Progress reports shared



What will the reports look like?

In Year 8 their target would be a step 6 and Year 9 a Step 7.



		Current	Effort and Engagement		
Subject	Step Target	Step Grade	Classwork	Homework	
English	Step 5	Step 3	Good	Inconsistent	
Mathematics	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good	
Science	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good	
Art	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good	
Computer Science	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good	
Design & Technology	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good	
French	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Inconsistent	
Geography	Step 5	Step 3	Excellent	Needs Improvement	
History	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good	
Music	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good	
Religious Studies	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good	
Physical Education	Step 5	Step 6	Excellent	Good	
Drama	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good	
English	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good	
Mathematics	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good	



Key Stage 3 Assessment



- In the majority of subjects, this student looks like they are on track to achieve their end of year Step target. In some subjects they have already achieved this.
- They are excelling in Physical Education
- English and Geography are their weaker areas.



		Current	Effort and Engagement	
Subject	Step Target	Step Grade	Classwork	Homework
English	Step 5	Step 3	Good	Inconsistent
Mathematics	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good
Science	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
Art	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good
Computer Science	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good
Design & Technology	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good
French	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Inconsistent
Geography	Step 5	Step 3	Excellent	Needs Improvement
History	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
Music	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good
Religious Studies	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good
Physical Education	Step 5	Step 6	Excellent	Good
Drama	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
English	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
Mathematics	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good



Key Stage 3 Assessment



Step Assessment Grids

 We recommend you refer to our KS3 assessment page on our school website, where you will find our subject specific assessment grids. Here you will be able to see the skills and knowledge needed for each step.



STEPS	STRAND 1 STRAND 2 Reading Writing		STRAND 3 Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar	STRAND 4 Speaking & Listening	EOKS4 Estimate
5	All the below and • can show understanding of important ideas, events, and characters in a clear way. • uses close analysis of individual words or phrases. • can select relevant writer's methods to further support interpretations.	All the below and • has varied and interesting writing. • can convey meaning clearly in writing. • uses imaginative word choices. • uses varied sentence structures. • uses a variety of techniques to add interest.	All the below and • uses a range of punctuation accurately, including apostrophes and inverted commas. • has generally accurate spelling, even where vocabulary is imaginative. • uses paragraphing with confidence.	All the below and explains ideas and feelings with lots of detail in places. shapes talk to make it clear and to engage the listener. adapts vocabulary, grammar and non-verbal features in ways to match the audience, purpose and context. listens, contributes and shapes the direction of talk.	5
4	All the below and • can show understanding of important ideas, events, and characters in a supported way. • uses some inference to explain ideas in some detail. • selects obvious references from the text. • embeds references into writing.	All the below and • begins to vary vocabulary for tone and style. • begins to use adventurous word choices. • has a developing awareness of different sentence structures. • has a developing understanding of literary and descriptive techniques.	All the below and • uses commas confidently for different clauses. • uses full stops, commas, question marks, speech marks and exclamation marks. • has generally accurate spelling, although some longer words may be inaccurate.	All the below and • takes turns in conversations and add detail. • organises the talk and make some changes to what is being said to suit audience, purpose and context. • demonstrates clear understanding of what others are saying. • introduce new ideas to the talk.	4
3	the below and an explain ideas and opinions about a text. tarts to pick out some phrases from the text but not always correctly, tarts to use references to explain simple nferences. All the below and • starts to use complex and compound sentences in writing. • uses some adjectives to create description.		All the below and uses question marks and exclamation marks accurately. uses commas to break up sentences but not always accurately. begins to spell high-frequency words accurately. uses paragraphs.	All the below and • takes turns in conversation and say more than just a few words, • makes some changes to what is being said to suit the audience. • listens to others, respond and make appropriate comments and suggestions.	3





Key Stage 3 Assessment



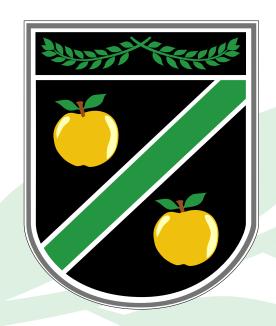
All home learning tasks are set on Satchel One. Your child has been provided with login details as have parents and carers.

Homework club is available to your child from Monday to Thursday in the Resource Centre from 3 to 3.45 pm if they need any support with completing their home learning tasks.

		Curren	Effort and Engagement	
Subject	Step Target	t Step Grade	Classwork	Homework
English	Step 5	Step 3	Good	Inconsistent
Mathematics	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good
Science	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
Art	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good
Computer Science	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good
Design & Technology	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Good
French	Step 5	Step 4	Excellent	Inconsistent
Geography	Step 5	Step 3	Excellent	Needs Improvement
History	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
Music	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good
Religious Studies	Step 5	Step 5	Good	Good
Physical Education	Step 5	Step 6	Excellent	Good
Drama	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
English	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good
Mathematics	Step 5	Step 5	Excellent	Good

Excellent /
Good/
Inconsistent/
Needs
Improvement

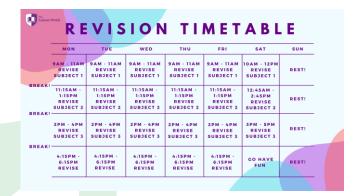






How Can I help my child revise well?

Allocate set time (shorter but more frequent revision sessions work best)



Put away the phone and other distractions



Provider

Find a good working environment



Set a timer – stop working when the timer goes off



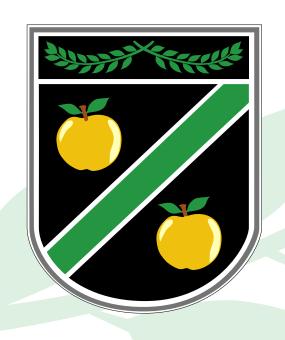
Collect everything you need before you start revising

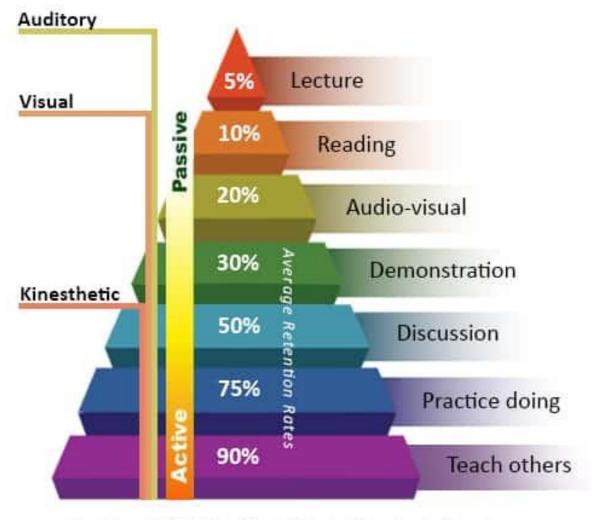


Share what you have learnt

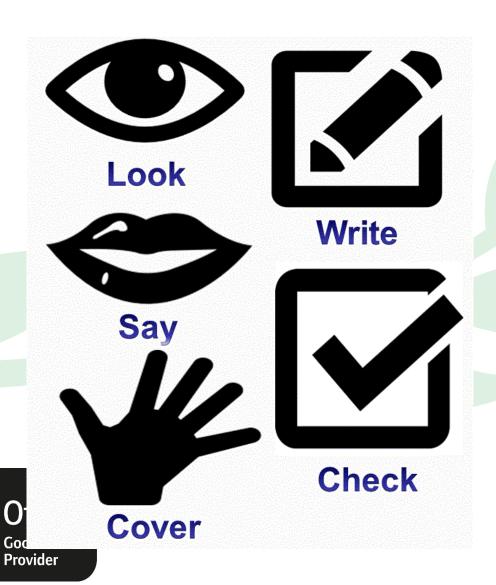


How Can I help my child revise well?





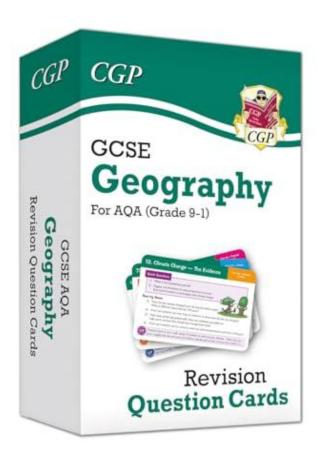




Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check

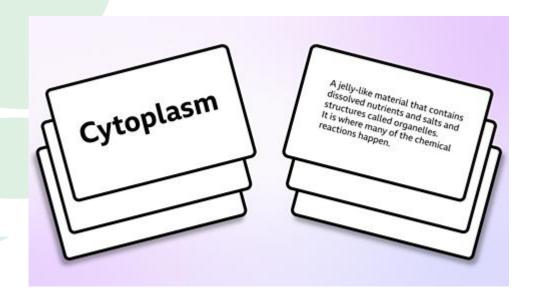
Works particularly well for learning key definitions and new vocabulary.





Flash Cards

Use cards with questions on one side and answers on the other. Ask your child the questions and help them check if they were right



Some websites will help you build this flashcards for free – e.g revisely.com





Mind Mapping

Students can write down what they recall from a topic, then categorise the information to present it. The aim is to make as many links as possible between pieces of information.

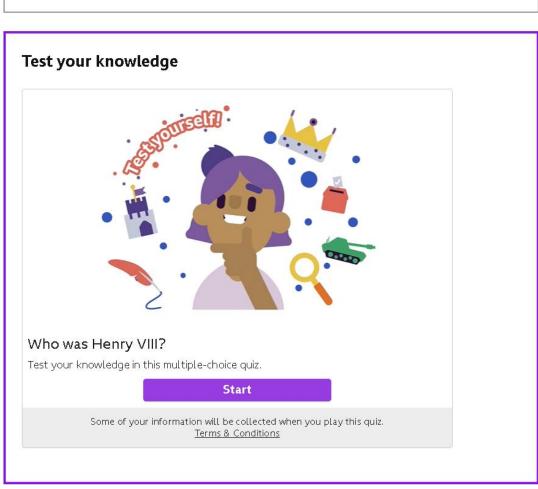




You can also play the full game.

Jump to Key points Game - Henry VIII Activity - who are you at the court of Henry VIII? The Tudor Family Who was the young Henry VIII? Foreign policy Activity - the Field of the Cloth of Gold Religion Game - Henry and the Catholic Church Government Marriages and children Game - Henry's marriages Test your knowledge

Provider



Practice Papers and Quizzes

A number of websites will have exam practice and low stakes quizzes to test your knowledge and understanding

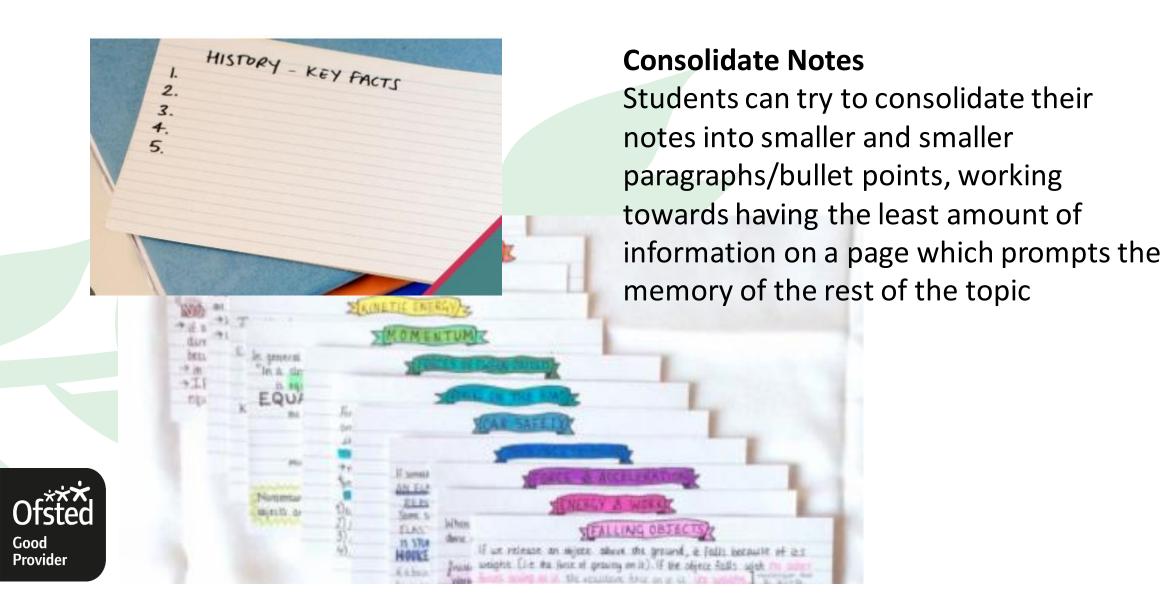
- BBC KS3 Bitesize
- SENECA KS3
- Sparx Math and Science



Blank Page

Simply start with a blank page and write down everything you can remember from a topic. Then using your book and a different coloured pen, add anything you missed.

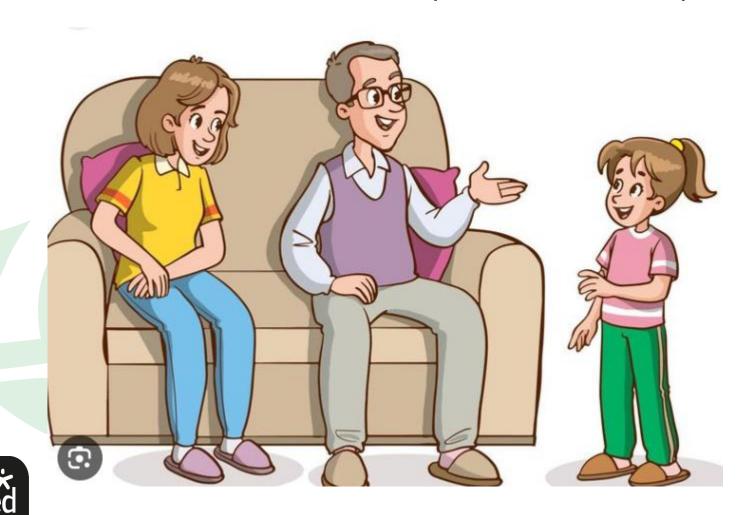




Teach It

Good Provider

Teach ItAsk your child to teach you what they have learnt.





Thank you for attending our Year 7 Curriculum Evening

