



September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Home Learning Requirement September 2023

Changes at a glance:

- Knowledge Organisers will continue into the 2023-2024 academic year
- All students will complete Home Learning in their workbook (new this year)
- Students can complete additional work in their own books/ folders if they fill the space allocated in their workbook
- Workbooks will be checked by P&A Mentors every Monday
- Students will not be able to complete Home Learning on computers
- Year 8 pupils will have access to Educake and Sparx- online quiz apps. Students will be expected to complete **30 minutes** on Sparx and Educake **every two weeks**

At Minsthorpe Community College, we deliver a knowledge rich curriculum in order to facilitate students to know more, remember more and do more. We have therefore designed strategies for students to remember what they have been taught. This letter outlines the expectations regarding Home Learning for this academic year. Home Learning has an invaluable impact on students' progress, and it is vital that Home Learning is supported by parents and carers at home.

What Home Learning will my child be expected to complete at Minsthorpe Community College?

Students are expected to:

- Read for 15 minutes a day at home
- Learn the weekly knowledge set in their Knowledge Organiser in every subject. This should amount to 30 minutes revision every night at home
- 30 minutes of Educake (Science) and 30 minutes of SPARX (Maths) every two weeks

What is a Knowledge Organiser?

Knowledge Organisers are designed to help your child learn a wide range of knowledge. Knowledge Organisers contain the core knowledge, in every subject area, your child needs to learn in order to achieve academic success.

Where can I find copies of Knowledge Organisers?

- Students will be issued a physical copy of their latest Knowledge Organiser at the beginning of every half term along with a workbook complete Home Learning in
- Workbooks are for the full academic year and if lost a new one must be purchased or printed from the school website
- Knowledge Organisers and workbooks can be found on the school website
- A PDF of the Knowledge Organiser students will be learning will be attached to their Satchel:One Home Learning task every Monday

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Minsthorpe Lane, South Elmsall, West Yorkshire, WF9 2UJ T. 01977 657600 E. enquiries@minsthorpe.cc **minsthorpe.cc**

Principals Mark Gilmore & Rachael Merritt



How will Home Learning be set and how should my child's Home Learning be submitted?

Every Monday, your child will be set a Home Learning task on Satchel:One (Minsthorpe's Online Home Learning Platform). The task will direct your child to learn a section of the Knowledge Organiser. The sections will be categorised according to the two week timetable. We will provide a timetable which details which subject should be studied and on what day. You can find a copy of this timetable below:

Day	Subject to Learn	Year 8 Only
Monday	English and L4L	
Tuesday	Maths and CDM	Sparx Week B
Wednesday	Science	Educake Week A
Thursday	French, History and Geography	
Friday	Design Technology, PE and Creative	

Students will be provided with a workbook to complete Home Learning in. Students will then show their workbook to their P&A mentor in P&A time every Monday. P&A mentors will check that students have completed a **minimum of 5 subjects** each week.

What support will students receive to support them in completing Home Learning?

- Students will receive training on how to use their Knowledge Organisers within the P&A curriculum. Every Monday and every Tuesday Week B will be dedicated Knowledge Organiser time.
- We have produced a Knowledge Organisers' guide for parents and students which contains 4 key strategies to help your child learn the knowledge in their Knowledge Organiser. There are also supporting videos that take your child through each strategy step by step.

When will Home Learning need to be submitted?

Home Learning will be set every Monday. Home Learning workbooks must be brought into school every Monday to show to P&A mentors in order for the previous week's work to be checked. Completion of Home Learning is compulsory.

What happens if my child does not complete their Home Learning?

Students who do not complete their Home Learning or students who require further assistance will be required to attend a 'Knowledge Commitment Session' after school on Wednesday (Y7) or Thursday (Y8). This session is an extension of the school day and is compulsory. If your child is required to attend the Knowledge Commitment session you will be alerted via text message. Home Learning is set weekly and must be completed weekly. Students who forget their workbook will also be issued a Knowledge Commitment.

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Knowledge Assessments

Every half-term your child will take a Knowledge Assessment based on the knowledge they have committed to memory. At the end of the year, we will crown a Knowledge Champion. Your child will be rewarded for the number of questions they answer correctly. For example, your child will receive a certificate for getting 100% of the questions correct in one subject area and/or being placed within the top 50 students in the year group.

Knowledge Assessments will take place on the dates below; it is imperative your child attends college on these days to complete their assessments:

- Thursday 26th October Period 3
- Wednesday 20th December Period 3
- Tuesday 6th February Period 3
- Friday 22nd March Period 3
- Thursday 23rd May Period 1
- Friday 12th July Period 1

What happens if my child struggles in the Knowledge Assessment?

The Knowledge Assessments test students on the core knowledge of our curriculum. This core knowledge is fundamental to success in academic subjects. The Knowledge Assessments will identify gaps in your child's knowledge. Some of these gaps will be addressed in classroom teaching. Some students will require further support and will attend a tutoring programme to ensure they are assisted in learning the content in the Knowledge Organisers. Tutoring for students who require additional support will take place on either Wednesday or Thursday after school. These sessions are an extension of the college day therefore compulsory. The tutoring programme will last for four weeks. The sessions will ensure students have embedded the core knowledge in their Knowledge Organisers into their long-term memory, and understand how to use the strategies at home. The college will contact you in the future if your child needs to attend the tutoring programme outlined above.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Minsthorpe Community College is a school where everyone plays a part in ensuring every child reaches their full potential.

If you require any additional help, guidance or support please do not hesitate to contact Minsthorpe Community College via phone: 01977 657600 or via email: enquiries@minsthorpe.cc.

Yours sincerely

L Ruston

Mr L Ruston
Associate Assistant Principal
Director of Pedagogy and Practice

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