



**St Stephen's**  
CE Primary School

# Knowledge Organiser Rationale

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Part of



**The Sycamore  
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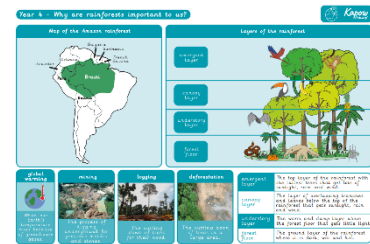
Grow together, Learn forever

## “Learning, loving and growing together as God’s children”

At St Stephen’s we view knowledge organisers (KO) as an essential curriculum tool, which provide our pupils, parents and staff with a summary of the key knowledge, concepts and vocabulary that pupils will know, understand and remember by the end of a given topic or theme. As a staff, we use them within our classrooms to facilitate and support our pupils to know more and remember more as they progress through our curriculum. We use knowledge organisers from Y1 to Y6 and we share these with our parents at the start of a given topic or theme through our class pages on the school website.

### What are they?

- Each individual knowledge organiser is themed on an area of study from our curriculum within a specific subject discipline.
- We present them as an A4 landscape or portrait “mat” that are available to all pupils in a lesson and a copy is displayed on the working wall/floor book so that they can refer to them during and after the topic to revisit learning as the year progresses.
- Each KO contains the specific facts and knowledge we have identified that we want our children to have as the end point to that area of study.
- The specific vocabulary that will be taught to pupils is included with a definition of the meanings.
- They are designed to be visual to include pictures and diagrams to support the working memory and help our pupils build secure schemata.



### How do we use them?

- They are designed to be **quizzable** so that within lessons and at home a variety of games and activities can be undertaken to retrieve and rehearse the identified knowledge and vocabulary.
- We **focus on specific elements** in different lessons or at different times by directing pupils to read or process these areas prior to any activities so that it helps our pupils build connections between the information.
- We **read** the contents regularly in lessons and encourage this at home with parents.
- We **rehearse** how to use the KO by asking questions about the content and encouraging our pupils to locate things. In addition, we develop our pupils’ ability to ask each other questions so that they can work in pairs to use it.
- We use the **close and cover** technique to recall parts or specific elements of the KO, which links to our collaborative learning approaches.
- We **check for accuracy** of what has been recalled by pupils revealing the information they have closed and covered to check understanding.
- We recognise that over time our pupils will be able to recall more of the KO and engage in the recall process with increasing time gaps, which is why we build in opportunities throughout the year to revisit our previous KOs to ensure our end points of knowledge and vocabulary are embedded.

Compiled and agreed by teaching staff during curriculum design. July 2023.

