

n Knowledge Organiser

## **Scalars and Vectors**

- 1. **Scalars** are quantities which only have **size** (magnitude), such as distance, speed, mass and energy.
- 2. Vectors are quantities with size and direction, such as displacement, velocity, acceleration, force and weight.
- 3. Resultant force is a vector quantity
- 4. Forces acting in the same direction can be added together
- 5. Forces acting in opposite directions can be subtracted
- 6. Resultant forces can be **resolved** into their horizontal and vertical **components**



## **Newton's Laws**

- 7. Newton's Third Law states that every action has an equal and opposite reaction
- 8. Newton's First Law states than an object's motion will not change unless acted upon by an unbalanced force
- 9. If the resultant force is 0 N a stationary object will remain stationary
- If the resultant force is 0 N an object in motion will continue moving at the same velocity
- If the resultant force is not 0 N a stationary object will accelerate in the direction of the resultant force
- 12. If the resultant force is not 0 N an object in motion will accelerate in the direction of the resultant force

## Acceleration

13. Acceleration is the **rate of change of velocity** 

- 14. Change in velocity is calculated using final velocity minus initial velocity
- 15. Acceleration happens when there is change in velocity (**speeding up**, **slowing down or a change in direction**)
- 16. Negative acceleration (slowing down) can be called **deceleration**
- 17. The SI unit for acceleration is  $\mathbf{m}/\mathbf{s}^2$
- An object moving in a circle is accelerating because it is constantly changing direction
- 19. Objects near Earth's surface experience gravitational acceleration of 9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>
- 20. Air resistance/drag increases with speed

*Change in velocity* Acceleration = Time

**Velocity-Time Graphs** 



## P3.1 Acceleration Knowledge Organiser

- 21. Velocity-time graphs can be used to describe motion
- 22. A horizontal line shows a constant velocity
- 23. A straight line with a **positive gradient** (slope) shows that an object has a **positive acceleration** (speeding up)
- 24. A straight line with a **negative gradient** (slope) shows that an object has a **negative acceleration**/deceleration (slowing down)
- 25. Acceleration can be calculated by calculating the gradient
- 26. **Distance** can be calculated from the **area under the graph**
- 27. A curved line shows that acceleration is changing