P8 Forces in Action Knowledge Organiser (H)

PT52.2

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Vectors and scalars	 A vector is a quantity that has magnitude (size) and direction, e.g., weight, forces, acceleration, momentum, displacement Vectors can be represented using arrows that show the size and direction of the quantity A scalar quantity has only size and no direction, e.g. 	Parallelogram of forces	 A scale diagram of two force vectors used to find the resultant of two forces that don't act on the same line. The resultant force will be the diagonal of the parallelogram that starts where the two force arrows start.
	Temperature, energy, distance, mass, time	Resolving forces	 •When we know the resultant force, we can split it back up into the two forces that are acting at 90° to each other to give that resultant force. •Turn the force arrow into a rectangle. The force arrow forms the diagonal of the rectangle like a vector. The long and short sides are therefore the forces that add up to give the vector. We can use trigonometry or ratios to find the size of each side. •If an object is in equilibrium, the resultant force acting is zero. Objects at rest are in equilibrium.
Forces and Newton's Third Law	 Force is measured in Newtons, N Forces can change the shape or motion of an object. A force can also act to change the state of rest of an object (i.e make it start moving!) Newton's Third Law says that when two objects interact, they exert equal and opposite forces on each other 		
Resultant force	•A single force that has the same effect as all the forces acting on an object		
	 To find the resultant force when two forces act on an object along the same line, add them together if they act in the same direction or work out the difference if they act in opposite directions. We can use a free body force diagram to show the forces acting on an object and therefore work out the resultant force. 		
Newton's First Law	•If the forces acting on an object are balanced, the resultant force acting on it will be zero and it will move at the same speed in the same direction, or remain stationery if at rest.		
Centre of mass	 This is the point where the mass of an object is thought of as being concentrated In uniform objects, i.e. a ruler, the centre of mass is at the midpoint If an object is freely suspended, it will come to rest with the CoM directly underneath where it is suspended from. This is a way to find the centre of mass of a non- uniform object. 		