## Y9 Maths Knowledge Organiser Topic 14: Quadratic Functions

| What must I be able to do? | Key vocabulary |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New content: <br> Sketch graphs of quadratic functions, considering orientation and labelling the point of intersection with the $y$ axis, considering what happens to y for large positive and negative values of $x$ | Quadratic function | An equation where the highest power of a variable (usually $x$ ) is 2 , e.g. it contains an $x^{2}$ power but not an $x^{3}$ or higher. We use both the word function and equation to mean the same thing here. |
| $\square$ Find approximate solutions of a quadratic equation from the graph of the corresponding function <br> > Sparx U989, U667 | Roots | The values of $x$ in a quadratic equation which give a value of $y=0$. On a graph, this is where it crosses the $x$-axis. |

## General form of a quadratic equation

The general equation of a quadratic is $y=a x^{2}+b x+c$, where $a, b$ and $c$ are all constant values. The $+c$ represents the intercept and tells us where the graph will cross the $y$-axis.

If the a is positive, the graph will form a u shape.


If the a is negative the graph will form a $n$ shape.

The graph is a smooth curve between each point and is called a parabola.


## Sketching quadratics

All you need to know is whether it forms a $u$ or a $n$ shape, and identify where it would cross the $y$-axis.
e.g. sketch the graph $y=3 x^{2}+5$
$a=3$ so is positive. So this is a u shape
$c=5$, so crosses at $(0,5)$


As it is a sketch, there is no need to plot any points accurately. The graph should be symmetrical about the $y$-axis and just label the crossing point.

## Plotting and using quadratic graphs

e.g. a) Complete the table of values for $4=x^{2}+4 x$ and plot the graph

| $x$ | -6 | -4 | -2 | 0 | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $y$ | 12 | 0 | -4 | 0 | 12 |
| $y$ | $=(-6)^{2}+4 x-6$ |  |  |  |  |
| $y=36-24=12 \quad$ As a quadratic graph is symmetrical, |  |  |  |  |  |
| you will often see repeating values of $y$ |  |  |  |  |  |


b) Use the graph to find estimates for the solutions of $x^{2}+4 x=9$

We already have the graph of $y=x^{2}+4 x$

We draw on to the same axis the graph of
$y=9$
Where the 2 graphs intersect (cross) we read off the two $x$ values.

So $x=1.5$ and $x=-5.5$

