

September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

SPARX Maths

The mathematics department are delighted to let you know that from Wednesday 2nd October, your child will be using Sparx Maths to complete their weekly maths homework. Sparx is an exciting online platform that provides a highly personalised weekly maths homework to students, tailored to their attainment level and working speed.

Your child's Sparx online homework will be set on a Wednesday and be due on the following Tuesday morning at 8:25am each week. Student usernames are generated when your child first signs into Sparx. Please ensure that your child records their username (usually *first name last name* with no spaces) and chooses a memorable password. Your child's mathematics teacher will be able to provide support with any signing in issues.

We know that you want to support your child's maths progress so we've put together this letter to explain how Sparx works and why it is important to make sure that maths homework is 100% completed.

How does Sparx homework work?

Sparx personalises each child's homework, creating a weekly set of questions tailored to their level of understanding and learning pace. The questions are designed to be achievable whilst offering the stretch that learners need to make progress. Sparx' research (sparx.co.uk/impact) has shown that students completing their weekly online tasks make more progress and achieve significantly improved grades through this type of personalised maths home learning.

Each week, topics are set by your child's maths teacher and will make up the majority of the homework questions. Questions from previous topics will also be included in the homework so that students can keep practising the skills they have learned, helping to reinforce their learning. After completing a question, immediate feedback is given about whether an answer was correct or if another try is needed. Every question in Sparx has a support video attached so that your child can get help independently if required.

While Sparx homework is accessed online, it is predominantly a written homework and students should record their working out in a workbook. Sparx has a "bookwork checks" system to help students form this habit. It would be useful for your child to have their own notebook dedicated only for Sparks work. This can be any form of notebook.

How can I help my child with their homework?

We appreciate that you will of course want to support your child with their home learning but please try not to help them with a question until they've had a go first! It is really important that they complete their homework independently, and that all questions are marked as correct. They can watch the support videos if needed. This way, Sparx can make sure your child continues to see homework at the right level for them.

Why does my child need to achieve 100% compulsory homework completion?

Sparx Homework is deliberately designed to help students really get to grips with and understand the concepts and skills they are learning by ensuring they cover the essential building blocks needed to make

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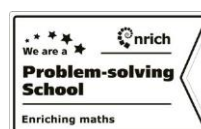
Fieldstead Crescent, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO12 6TH

Headteacher: Mr C. Robertson

Part of Coast and Vale Learning Trust

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progress in maths. It is advised that students do their homework as early as possible, so they have the time to have a go themselves and seek help from their teacher if needed. Homework is not marked as complete until all of the compulsory questions have been answered correctly, so starting early is key to finishing before hand-in time.

You can keep track of your child's homework completion in the weekly email you will receive from Sparx.

We hope you agree that Sparx will play an exciting and important role in helping your child's understanding, success and confidence in maths to grow.

Please see the bottom of this letter for additional information and guidance on using Sparx. If you have any questions, please contact your child's maths teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Mallender

Head of Mathematics

Additional Information and Sparx Guidance

All students will have an induction lesson using the new platform with their maths teacher in school. The first homework on Sparx will be set on Wednesday 2nd October and will be due on Tuesday morning at 8:25am on the 8th October.

For Parents:

- **A guide to Sparx Maths – [Click here](#)**
This link includes all parental guidance and videos (also copies of student videos) as well as a list of frequently asked questions and their answers.
- **Sparx impact research – [Click here](#)**

For Students:

- **PDF guide to logging into Sparx for the first time – [Click here](#)**
- **Video guide to logging into Sparx for the first time – [Click here](#)**
- **Information video – [Click here](#)**
- **Sparx learning tips – [Click here](#)**
- **Bookwork video – [Click here](#)**
- **Bookwork good example – [Click here](#)**

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