

February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted to let you know during this term students will be completing their maths homework with Sparx Maths. Sparx is an online platform that offers every student a personalised maths homework. Over time this will replace Hegarty maths.

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.

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.

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**. If they receive too much help then SPARX will assume they have a deeper understanding of a topic than they have and so they will get harder questions on this too soon. They can watch the support video if they need to. This way, Sparx can make sure your child continues to see homework that's at the right level for them.

The best way to support therefore is to encourage your child to get started on their homework as soon as it is set. They do not have to complete all of it in one session.

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 progress in maths**. 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 will receive a weekly email from Sparx so that you can keep track of the progress of your child's homework completion. You can opt out of this facility if you would prefer not to receive these emails.

We hope that Sparx will help support your child's understanding, leading to success and confidence in maths.

For further information please go to the school website to watch a short video and get some top tips to help your child.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's maths teacher.

Kind regards

Swakeleys School Maths Department