



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

07 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

We are excited to inform you that from Thursday 9th May, your child will be using Sparx Maths to complete their weekly Maths homework. Sparx provides a highly personalised weekly homework to students, tailored to their attainment level and working speed.

Your child's homework will be set on Thursday and due on Wednesday every week.

We know you want to support your child's Maths progress, so we are sending this letter to explain how Sparx works and how you can help your child complete their homework each week.

What is Sparx Maths Homework?

- Sparx provides personalized homework to each child, with questions that are challenging yet achievable, and tailored to their learning needs.
- Sparx can be accessed through a browser on any device, there is no need to download an app, and uses the students' school login details.
- The majority of each week's homework will be based on recently learnt topics, but it will also include some questions from previous topics to help reinforce their learning.
- Students access their homework on their online Sparx account, where they will get immediate feedback for each question about whether their answer was correct or they need to have another try.
- While homework is accessed online, it is predominantly a written homework and students should record their work in their workbooks. Sparx has a "bookwork checks" system to help students form this habit.
- Every question in Sparx has a support video attached to that your child can get help independently.

How can you help your child with their homework?

- Provide a quiet space for your child to focus on their homework each week.
- Encourage them to start their homework early so they can get help from their teacher before the deadline if they get stuck. To ensure no gaps form in your child's Maths knowledge, homework is not marked as complete until **all** of the compulsory questions have been answered correctly.
- Check the weekly email you will get from Sparx and praise your child for starting or completing their homework. Encourage them to finish it before the deadline if they haven't already done so.
- Try not to help your child with a question until they've had a go first. It is essential they try to complete their homework independently so that Sparx can give them questions that are at the right level for them. Remember they can watch the support videos if they need to.

Headteacher: Mrs S Dover

What support is available at St Aidan's?

- Maths staff and computers will be available on a Wednesday lunchtime in IT3 and IT4. There will also be some sixth form Maths students available to support.
- If your child needs additional support with a question having watched the videos, they should either ask their Maths teacher for help in their lesson or ask another member of the Maths department at break or lunchtime.
- There is an FAQs page on the school website answering queries about why bookwork and 100% completion are important.

What data does Sparx use?

- From September Sparx will use parental/carer contact details to keep parents/carers informed of the students' progress through the weekly homework.
- Sparx uses the students school login details and email addresses to log in to the Sparx website.
- Sparx keeps data on setting, age, ability and pupil premium status to help ensure homework is set at an appropriate level and feed into school reporting and monitoring systems. Other users will not be able to view/access this information.
- More information on how Sparx use your data can be found [here](#)

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

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Walker or Mrs Mooney.

Kind regards

Mr Walker

Head of Maths

Headteacher: Mrs S Dover