

30 September 2025



Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 SPARX Mathematics Programme Independent Learning

As you will be aware, English and maths are two core GCSE subjects that play a vital role in your child's future education and career opportunities.

Pupils who do not achieve at least a grade 4 in either subject are required to resit the exams at college until they pass or reach the age of 18. This applies to all post-16 pathways, including apprenticeships. These resits often involve additional lessons (typically around two hours per week), and nationally, fewer than 17% of pupils improve their grade through resits.

At Priory, we want to give our pupils the best possible chance of success the first time around. Over the past three years, we've seen a strong link between pupils' performance in GCSE maths and their engagement with the SPARX Mathematics programme. In fact, last year, 70% of Priory pupils achieved a grade 4 or above in maths.

To support your child's achievements, we've made a small but important change to our independent learning programme. All Year 11 pupils are aware they are expected to complete a minimum amount of compulsory SPARX homework each week and the tasks set should take around 30 minutes. This must be completed by midday each Wednesday.

If the homework is not completed by the deadline:

- You will receive a text on Wednesday afternoon asking for your support in ensuring the work is completed within the next 24 hours.
- If it remains incomplete by Thursday midday, a second reminder will be sent.
- **If the homework is still outstanding by Friday midday**, your child will be required to attend a **compulsory maths independent learning session** after school **on Friday from 3.10pm to 3.50pm**.

We hope that with these reminders and your support, pupils will complete their work on time and avoid the need for after-school sessions.

If your child has any difficulty accessing SPARX Mathematics at home, please contact their maths teacher so we can make alternative arrangements.

The vast majority of our Year 11 pupils already complete their SPARX homework reliably, and we do not anticipate many families receiving these notifications. However, we believe this structure will help all pupils stay on track and take ownership of their learning, giving them the best chance to succeed in their exams and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'N R Gee'.

Mr N Gee
Assistant Principal



Penwortham Priory Academy Crow Hills Road Penwortham Preston PR1 0JE

Phone: 01772 320250

Fax: 01772 752426

Email: enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Visit: priory.lancs.sch.uk