

October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

We are excited to inform you that from this week, your child will be using Sparx Maths to complete their weekly maths homework. Sparx provides a highly personalised weekly homework to pupils, tailored to their attainment level and working speed.

Your child's homework will be set by your child's maths teacher each week and will be due exactly one week later. Each class may have slightly different days due to the two week timetable. 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 personalised homework to each child, with questions that are challenging yet achievable, and tailored to their learning needs.
- 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.
- Pupils access their homework on their online Sparx account, where they'll 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 pupils should record their work in their workbooks. Sparx has a "bookwork checks" system to help pupils form this habit.
- Every question in Sparx has a support video attached to that your child can get help independently.
- For a video explanation then please watch the video at this link:
<https://support.sparx.co.uk/v1/docs/sparx-math-homework-for-parents>
- Every child will have had an introductory session with their class teacher to show them how the system works and how to complete homework tasks.

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'll 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.

What support is available at school?

- Children could complete their homework in the library at break or lunch

'Let your light shine before others' Matthew 5 v 16
Head Teacher: Mr Daniel Jeffries BA(Hons) MA NPQH NPQEL

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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility - Selwood Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and we expect all members of staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

- Children can check in with their maths teachers if struggling to answer some of the questions. Teachers will be able to see flagged questions each week.
- If parents have any queries about Sparx or are struggling with any aspect of it then please feel free to contact me at: oliver.littlewood@selwood-academy.co.uk

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 either your child's maths teacher or myself.

Kind regards

Mr Littlewood
Head of Maths

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