

23rd September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are really excited to inform you that all students in year 7 will be involved in a pilot programme which will support them in their maths learning this year. We have partnered with Sparx Maths - www.sparx.co.uk - to help them develop a 21st century homework platform that delivers bespoke homework to our students.

The pilot will involve every student getting homework generated that is individualised (every child will get a different homework), perfectly tailored to their needs and should offer them just the right level of challenge, based on the topics that their teacher has set.

The homework uses an algorithm to ensure that the content delivered is at the correct level. We ask for patience in the early weeks of this pilot as the system learns about the precise level for each student. If a student receives too much assistance with their homework, Sparx may think they're able to tackle more difficult questions and their work could get harder. To prevent this, always encourage them to attempt the question first and to watch the support video before getting help.

Homework contains 3 elements: Compulsory, Optional and Target. All questions in the Compulsory section must be answered correctly for the homework to be marked as complete.

Please note that each week, provided you have given the school your email address, Sparx will send you an update on any upcoming homework and on the progress of your child.

To view some top tips on what you can do to support your child with their Sparx learning please see the attached document. The article contains lots of helpful information including:

- Encouraging good habits
- Getting logged in to Sparx
- What exactly is Sparx Maths Homework?
- What are 'bookwork checks'?
- How can I support my child when they're stuck?

Sparx Maths will be launched in class and each student will receive instructions about how to log on which they will note down in their Sparx Homework Book.

This letter, together with the top tips document and the launch video watched by your child will be posted on the academy website. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mr Justin Parkinson

Sparx Leader