

15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Home Learning

At Oak Academy, we fully believe in the value of Home Learning. We feel that it both supports student's learning as well as allowing students to become confident, independent learners. Our rationale is to ensure that home learning will be appropriate for the age, stage and needs of all students. For years 7 to 19, Home Learning will be completed in a Home Learning Booklet alongside completion of Tasks online on Sparx Maths. Year 10 have been issued with a Home Learning folder, to keep the separate booklets that they have been given by their individual subject Teachers. Year 11 have also been given a Home Learning folder and subject teachers will be set by class teachers.

Our expectations are that all students in Key Stage 3 will complete the following:

Every week:

An English Task  
Maths tasks on Sparx  
A Science Task  
A PE Task

Every fortnight:

A task in all other subjects

In Key Stage 4, students will complete the following:

An English Task  
Maths tasks on Sparx, (plus a Maths Drill for Year 11)  
A Science Task  
Options Tasks

## Sparx Maths

We are delighted to let you know that students will again be completing their maths homework using Sparx Maths. Sparx is an exciting online platform that offers every student a personalised maths homework. We have seen this past year, how Sparx significantly contributes to student success in the subject.

## 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 to support your child's learning in lessons. Questions from previous topics will also be included in the homework so that students can keep practising the skills they have learned.

### Oak Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT  
Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education  
Hayley Richley BSc (Hons), Principal

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### **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 have had a go first! It is **really important that they complete their homework independently**, and that questions are marked as correct. They can watch the support video if they need to. This way, Sparx can make sure your child continues to see homework that is at the right level for them.

### **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**. It is therefore advised that students do their homework as early as possible, so they have the time to have a go themselves and seek help from their teacher if needed. 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 can keep track of your child's homework completion in the weekly email you will receive from Sparx.

We hope you agree that Sparx will play an exciting and important role in helping your child's understanding, success, and confidence in maths to grow. If you have any questions, please contact our new Head of Maths Mr M Symons at [michael.symons@oak-academy.co.uk](mailto:michael.symons@oak-academy.co.uk)

Students will be expected to log their Home Learning in their planners and complete by the deadline given. This will be set in line with a Timetable, Home Learning Booklets should be bought into school daily.

Achievement points will be given for completion of Home Learning at two levels, Good and Excellent. Failure to complete Home Learning will result in an afterschool support session, where teachers will be available to support students with their work. Failure to attend this session will result in a detention. To get help with their Sparx Home Learning, your child can attend Maths Home Learning support every Thursday after school in IT2.

Further information can be found on our website, [Home Learning - Oak Academy \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](http://Home Learning - Oak Academy (oak-academy.co.uk))  
Alternatively, email me at [Karen.Price@oak-academy.co.uk](mailto:Karen.Price@oak-academy.co.uk)

Many thanks for your continued support with Home Learning.

Yours sincerely



Ms Karen Price  
Assistant Vice Principal - Standards

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