

September 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

### **Sparx Maths homework**

This school year, we will be setting your child's weekly maths homework on the Sparx Maths platform. Sparx has been proven to help students make good progress in maths. It does this by providing a highly personalised weekly homework, tailored to their attainment level and working speed.

Your child's homework will be set at 3pm every Thursday and due for completion by 10pm on Wednesday of following week. Homework should take around an hour for Years 10 and 11 (less for Key Stage 3).

Over the next two weeks, students will have an introductory session in school where they will access practice questions on Sparx, with teacher support, to show them how the platform works. Their first homework task will then be set on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September.

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 student, with questions that are challenging yet achievable, and tailored to their learning needs.
- Homework is matched to the topics on our CTA maths curriculum. The majority of each week's homework will be based on recently learned topics, but it will also include some questions from previous topics to help reinforce their learning.
- They'll get immediate feedback for each question about whether their answer was correct or they need to have another try.
- Your child should record their working for each question in the back of their exercise book (or in their separate Sparx homework book, once they are given theirs). For each question they write down a 'bookwork code' and Sparx has a "bookwork check" system to help students form good habits with writing down their working.
- Students log in at [sparxmaths.com](https://sparxmaths.com) by choosing the name of the school, then clicking the "Log into Sparx using Microsoft" button. If prompted, they will need to enter their normal school network username and password.

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 before the deadline if they need it. 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.
- 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.

How can your child get further help?

- As a first step, every question in Sparx has a support video attached so that your child can get immediate help independently.
- If they are still stuck after watching the video, your child should ask their teacher for support, before the homework deadline.
- We will also be running a dedicated Sparx homework support session every Wednesday, at the start of lunch, in A25.

We are excited to be introducing this new platform, which we expect to have a strong impact on developing your child's understanding, success and confidence in maths.

If you have any questions, now or during the year, please don't hesitate to contact me:  
[l.brown@chaseterraceacademy.co.uk](mailto:l.brown@chaseterraceacademy.co.uk)

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Brown', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mr L. Brown**  
**Head of Mathematics**