



30th September 2024

DWH/ws

Dear Parent/Carer,

Sparx Maths homework initiative

We are excited to inform you that from 16/09/2024 your child will be using Sparx Maths to complete their weekly maths homework. Sparx provides a highly personalised weekly homework to students, tailored to their attainment level and working speed.

Your child's homework will be set on Wednesday of each week and due on the same hand-in day Wednesday of the following week.

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 personalized 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.
- Students 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 students should record their work in their workbooks. Sparx has a "bookwork checks" system to help students form this habit.
- Every question in Sparx has a support video attached to it so that your child can get help independently.

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.

"TOP 100 NON-SELECTIVE STATE-FUNDED SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY" NICK GIBB, MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCHOOLS (FEBRUARY 2016)



What support is available at Brentford High School for Girls?

- Your child can attend the school's homework club.
- They can also use the schools' library/computer room to complete homework.
- Our expectations on how students should ask for help after watching the videos, from their class teacher is key to their success in raising their level on their compulsory task each week.
- Each class teacher will stress the point about why bookwork and 100% completion are important, so we will check their Sparx bookwork from time to time.

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 your child's teacher or Mr. Whittaker at; dwhittaker@brentford.hounslow.sch.uk

Data Protection

The school securely provides Sparx with Student Data in line with UK GDPR to enable Sparx to set-up and administer student accounts, and to evaluate the progress of the student. This includes:

- name
- gender
- date of birth
- class
- unique pupil number or other identifying code
- KS2 and GCSE results
- question level analyses after half-termly school assessments
- pupil premium status
- free school meal status
- English is an additional language status

Sparx collects parent names and email addresses from the school in order to update parents on their child's progress.

For further information please visit our privacy notice for students and parents which can be found: <https://www.brentford.hounslow.sch.uk/ourschool/policies>

Kind regards

D. Whittaker

Mr. Whittaker

Lead Practitioner/Teacher of Mathematics