

Dear Parent/Carer,

4th September 2026

Supporting Your Child's Success with Sparx Homework

At Thomas Keble, we use **Sparx Maths** and **Sparx Reader** to support students' learning beyond the classroom. These platforms provide personalised homework that helps students develop confidence, knowledge and independent study habits. We would like to explain why completing Sparx homework regularly is so important and how you can support your child at home.

Why is Sparx Homework Important?:

Sparx has been carefully designed to provide work that is both **challenging and achievable** for every student. Questions are tailored to your child's current level of understanding, helping them make steady progress whilst building confidence.

Regular completion of Sparx homework helps students to:

- Reinforce learning from recent lessons:
- Practise key skills and improve long-term memory through regular review:
- Develop resilience and independent learning habits:
- Receive immediate feedback and support when they make mistakes:
- Build confidence through success and consistent practice.

For mathematics, Sparx provides personalised questions and support videos that help students work through difficulties independently. Research highlighted by Sparx indicates that regular, personalised homework can have a positive impact on student outcomes.

We introduced Sparx Reader in response to the downturn in numbers of young people reading regularly. While we do everything we can to facilitate and encourage reading for pleasure, we are aware that there is a limit to how far we can monitor and quantify what our students are reading. So, while we continue to highlight the many advantages of reading for pleasure, we also have our 'Reading for Power' strand. 'Reading for Power' is about developing the skills that students will need for life and is non-negotiable. Students in KS3 are set homework weekly on Sparx reader and we find that regular engagement with Sparx Reader encourages students to read more frequently, develop vocabulary, improve comprehension skills and build reading stamina, all of which contribute to success across the curriculum.

Why Do We Expect 100% Completion?

We encourage all students to aim for **100% completion** of their homework each week. Sparx is designed so that every student can achieve success when they engage fully with the tasks and use the support available. This consistent practice is one of the most effective ways to improve knowledge, understanding and confidence.

How Can Parents Help?

You do not need to be a maths or English expert to support your child. The most effective support often comes from encouraging positive routines and habits.

Top tips for supporting your child:

1. Encourage them to start early

- Avoid leaving homework until the evening before the deadline.
- Starting early allows time to seek help if needed.

2. Provide a quiet workspace

- A calm environment free from distractions can significantly improve concentration.

3. Promote independence

- Encourage your child to attempt questions themselves before offering help.
- Learning from mistakes is an important part of the process.

4. Encourage the use of support tools

- Sparx provides videos, hints and other guidance when students are stuck.
- These resources are designed to help students learn independently.

5. Talk about learning

- Ask your child what they have been studying.
- Celebrate effort, persistence and improvement, not just scores.

6. Monitor progress

- Regularly check homework completion and discuss any difficulties with your child.
- Use the Sparx Parent Portal to view progress and engagement.

Working Together:

The partnership between school and home is vital. When students complete their Sparx homework regularly, they are better prepared for lessons, develop greater confidence and make stronger academic progress. Parent engagement has also been shown to improve homework completion rates.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child develop positive study habits and achieve their full potential.

Additional Support: Sparx Homework Club:

We understand that some students may occasionally need extra help with their homework. To support them, we run a **Sparx Homework Club every Tuesday after school in T20 from 3:15pm to 4:15pm.**

During this session, students can:

- Access computers and the internet to complete their homework.
- Receive support with any questions they are finding challenging.
- Use the Sparx support resources with guidance from staff.
- Develop confidence and good study habits in a supportive environment.

We strongly encourage students to attend if they are struggling with their homework, have limited access to technology at home, or would simply benefit from a quiet space to work. Attending early in the homework week can help ensure that all tasks are completed successfully before the deadline.



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