



KS3 Homework Policy

2026-27

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Introduction

Educational research from the EEF has found that homework -linked to classroom curriculum- has a positive impact on students' progress of up to 5 months per academic year when compared against students who are not receiving or completing homework.

The setting of regular and appropriately challenging homework provides opportunity for students to regulate their time, increase their agency, and feel intrinsically successful.

Homework supports students in developing Wrenn values, including: Working Hard, Enjoying Learning, Never Giving Up, and Navigating Their Future.

Sparx Education

At Wrenn we use the platform Sparx Learning for all KS3 homework. Sparx Learning delivers research-backed highly personalized homework and revision across three disciplines: Maths, Science, and Reader. Sparx Learning uses artificial intelligence and adaptive algorithms to ensure students are receiving homework appropriate to their needs, whilst continually supporting students to make progress. Sparx Learning allows homework plans to be created to support classroom curriculums through retrieval-based activities and deliberate practice, whilst also allowing students to access new content through the independent learning and personal practice sections.

Homework Setting

The table below shows when homework commences and concludes each academic year:

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Commences</u>	<u>Concludes</u>
7	Start of Week 4	End of Week 39
8	Start of Week 3	End of Week 39
9	Start of Week 3	End of Week 39
Academic year 2026-27 comprises 41 weeks.		
Homework will not be set during school holidays.		

The table below shows homework duration per week in minutes:

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Sparx Maths</u>	<u>Sparx Science</u>	<u>Sparx Reader</u>
7	60	30	30
8	60	30	30
9	60	30	30

The table below shows a standard Sparx homework week for KS3:

<u>Homework Starts</u>	<u>Parental Engagement Email</u>	<u>Homework Deadline</u>
Monday at 8.00am	Thursday evening	Sunday 8.00pm

Homework Commitments

The table below shows student, staff, and parent/carers commitments:

<u>SLT</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Parents/Carers</u>	<u>Students</u>
Will ensure Sparx Learning platform is regularly synced and up to date for communications.	Will actively inform students of expectations and will reward students who engage fully.	Will read the weekly Sparx engagement email and promote their child(ren) to complete 100% each week.	Will engage with and complete 100% of the weekly Sparx homework.
Will ensure KS3 homework clubs* are in-place, staffed, and effective.	Will offer opportunities for students to complete their homework at school – including the use of devices.	Will promote attendance to the KS3 homework clubs* – if child(ren) require access to devices / specialist support.	Will attend KS3 homework clubs* if they are unable to complete their homework outside of school.
Will plan Sparx competitions with a variety of prizes, including gift vouchers. Competition progress will be visible on displays around school.	Will advertise and promote Sparx competitions, supporting students who are striving for the top.		
Will use the data gathered from Sparx homework to inform Progress Leaders and allow for early intervention.	Will use the data gathered from Sparx homework to inform lesson content delivery and address misconceptions as they arise.		
Will send half-termly overview engagement letters home to parents & carers.		Will read overview engagement letter and discuss engagement with child(ren).	Will engage in overview engagement discussions with parents/carers.

***KS3 Homework Club**

This academic year we have two different homework clubs:

1. Sparx Lunch-time Homework Club
 - a. Runs every day 1.35pm – 2.05pm in AC1
 - b. Technical support available
2. Sparx After-school Homework Club
 - a. Runs every Wednesday 3.15pm – 3.55pm in AC1
 - b. Core specialist teacher available
 - c. Attendance grants Golden Ticket