

Executive Principal: Mrs Ruth Holden, MA, NPQH

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www.mulberryacademyshoreditch.org

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Dear Families,

RE: Sparx Maths

We are excited to inform you that starting this year 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 will have homework set on the platform each week, due one week from the day it is set. You will be informed through email when a piece of homework is set and you will receive another email after the due date to report on how your child did on their homework. Your child is expected to spend an average of 60 minutes per week to complete their homework. Independent tasks are also available should they want more practice.

If your child is in Year 8 or above, they can log onto the platform with their Teams account. If your child is in Year 7, they will need to create an account using their full name and date of birth.

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 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.
- We do not recommend using phones to complete homework unless absolutely necessary, as it can be distracting and less effective.

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What support is available at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch?

- If your child does not have access to a computer at home, we suggest they come along to Maths homework club to complete their homework. Maths homework club will be held weekly Thursdays 3:45pm – 4:30pm in room 512.
- If they are unable to attend Thursdays, they are free to use the computers outside the library before or after school.
- Students should always watch the video first before requesting teacher help in order to encourage independent learning. If students need teacher support, they should find their teacher after school in the maths office or post on Teams.

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 Ms Keyser on (rkeyser@mulberryschoolstrust.org)

Kind regards

Ms R Keyser
Maths KS3 Coordinator

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