



22 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

We're excited to let you know that we've partnered with Sparx to start using their new reading platform, Sparx Reader. We have spent the last couple of weeks making sure that all Year 8 students have completed an initial assessment. After Easter your child will be using Sparx Reader to complete weekly reading homework.

Your child's personalised reading book, provided by Sparx, will be set on a Friday and they are expected to complete their reading for the following Friday. Sparx Reader helps every student to achieve regular independent reading, which is incredibly important for building vital literacy skills.

Students will be able to choose from a range of ebooks at their appropriate level and as they read, they'll answer questions to check they're reading carefully. Careful readers earn points meaning they can track their progress and climb the league table! Motivated readers who demonstrate consistent, careful reading can unlock Gold Reader. This means they can read any paper back book from the library or from home by scanning its barcode.

How do they log in?

- Students log in at sparxreader.com. They will need to find their school and log in using their Sparx Maths details.

What devices are supported?

- Your child can access Sparx Reader on any device that connects to the internet with a web browser.

How can I support my child with their reading?

- Sparx Reader adapts to each student's reading level, so it's important that you **don't** help by answering questions for them. If you help them, Sparx Reader might think they're a very strong reader and show them books that are too difficult.
- You can however help to provide a quiet space for your child to focus on their reading each week.
- The best way to support your child is to ask them about the book they're reading; what aspects they're enjoying, or what characters and events they've recently read about.
- There is also an excellent service that everyone can access which is provided by Bradford Council. Bradford Council also have a free online ebook and audiobook service called BorrowBox. Anyone living in Bradford can access this free using the link <https://bradford.ent.sirsiidynix.net.uk/custom/web/registration/index.html> or the QR code in this letter

How can I monitor the reading my child is doing?

- You are able to keep track of the reading your child is doing by clicking through the link to the Parent Portal in your Sparx Maths weekly email.
- On the Parent Portal, you can choose to view reading progress for any Sparx learning system your child is using. For Sparx Reader, you can see progress with the current and previous homework and browse books that your child has been reading as part of their current homework.

What support is available at Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College?

- Sparx Club – Wednesday 3.00pm-4.00pm in the library.



If you have any questions, please contact Claire Heywood (Whole School Reading Lead).

Regards

C.h. Heywood

Mrs C Heywood



AMBITION



RESILIENCE



COURTESY



KINDNESS