



18 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to let you know that starting this half term 28 February students will be completing their maths homework with Sparx Maths. Sparx is an exciting online platform that offers every student a personalised maths homework.

As you know, for some time now our students have been completing their maths homework with Hegarty Maths and we are happy with the positive impact on learning this has had so far. We are also aware that many students have struggled with some aspects of Hegarty Maths due to the 'one size fits all' nature of the tasks. Hegarty Maths as a company has merged with Sparx Maths to create a more bespoke homework programme which, research proves, helps students to make significantly more progress in mathematics.

We know that you want to support your child's maths progress so this letter will explain how Sparx works and why it is important to make sure that maths homework is 100% completed.

How does Sparx homework work?

Sparx **personalises every child's homework**, creating a weekly set of questions **tailored to their level of understanding and learning pace**. The questions are designed to be achievable whilst offering the stretch that learners need to make progress.

Each week, topics are set by your child's maths teacher. Questions from previous topics will also be included so that students can keep practising skills they have learned in the past. The system will take a few weeks to learn your child's pace and current understanding so please encourage them to stick with it if they are finding it too easy or hard.

How can I help my child with their homework?

We appreciate that you will want to support your child with their home learning but please try not to help them with a question until they've had a go first! It is **very important that they complete their homework independently** and they watch the support video if they need to. Sparx can then make sure your child sees homework that's at the right level for them.

Why does my child need to achieve 100% compulsory homework completion?

Sparx Homework is deliberately designed to **help students really get to grips with and understand the concepts and skills they are learning by ensuring they cover the essential building blocks needed to make progress in maths**. Sparx' research (sparx.co.uk/evidence) has shown that an average of 60 minutes a week of this type of personalised maths home learning leads to clear progress. Homework is not marked as complete until **all** of the compulsory questions have been answered correctly, so starting early is key to finishing before hand-in time. This will also give them time to seek help from their teacher if they are struggling.

If you have shared your email address with school, you can keep track of your child's homework completion in the weekly email you will receive from Sparx.

We hope you agree that Sparx will play an exciting and important role in helping your child's understanding, success and confidence in maths to grow.

If you have any questions, please email me at lee.mazacs@bbec.bdat-academies.org

Yours sincerely

L Mazacs

Mr Mazacs
Head of Maths – Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College



AMBITION



RESILIENCE



COURTESY



KINDNESS