



9 October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Sparx Maths and Sparx Reader – Year 7

We are excited to introduce how we will use Sparx Maths and Sparx Reader for students to complete their weekly maths and reading home learning. Sparx provides a highly personalised weekly homework for students which is tailored to their maths attainment level and reading age level.

Your child's homework will be set weekly:

- Maths on a Wednesday afternoon and due the following Wednesday 8am
- Reading on a Monday afternoon due on the following Monday 8am

What is Sparx Maths homework?

- Sparx provides personalised 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 will 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.
- Every question in Sparx has a support video attached to that your child can get help independently.

What is Sparx Reader homework?

- Sparx Reader is an online platform that helps students develop their reading and literacy skills.
- Students are assigned books of their choice based on an initial reading age and reading habits test. This means books are personalised to the student ability.
- Students are paused at certain points in their reading and given a comprehension test is given.
- Students are awarded Sparx Reader Points for the amount of time they spend reading and the accuracy of the comprehension testing. Students are set the challenge of reading for at least 40 mins per week.
- Teachers can see how much each student is reading in real time, and the Sparx Reading Test measures student progress.
- Accessibility features: here students can change settings for font, size, and background colour.

Harrogate Grammar School Arthurs Avenue, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 0DZ
☎ 01423 531127 ✉ mail@hgs.rklt.co.uk 📘 HarrogateGrammarSchool 📧 @HarrogateGS
www.harrogategrammar.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr N Renton, Associate Headteacher: Mrs K Moat



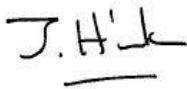
Learning Trust Alliance Teacher Training Teaching School Hub

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.
- Try not to help your child with a question until they have 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 look forward to Sparx playing an important role in developing your child's understanding, success and confidence in reading and maths.

Yours sincerely,



Jason Hill
Assistant Headteacher
Maths Faculty Leader



Charlotte Dunne
Assistant Headteacher
English Faculty Leader