

JM/kw

Monday 3rd February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are moving into the last week of this half term and I would like to clarify expectations for completion of Sparx Reader homework and the support available to students. It's important to us that young people are able to practise careful, silent reading for a proportion of time, without distraction. Sparx Reader reassures us as teachers and parents that focused reading is happening, enabling readers of all abilities to feel successful and motivated.

**What should my child be doing for their Sparx Reader homework?**

In addition to their knowledge organiser work and any specific English tasks set, students in Year 9 and 10 will be using Sparx Reader to complete weekly homework in English. This homework should take students approximately 30-40 minutes per week to complete and will result in students gaining Sparx Reader Points for every minute of careful reading completed. Your child's English teacher will set the reading homework on a day which is suitable for their class and it is expected that students will **reach 300 SRP by the due date**.

**What is SRP?**

SRP stands for Sparx Reader Points. Students will earn SRP as they read and pass their checks.

**How does a student earn SRP?**

At the end of each section they read, students will see a small number of questions or a 'check' to see how carefully they have read. If a student passes the check, they will earn SRP.

To pass the check, the student needs to answer the majority of the questions correctly. (Depending on the number of questions they are shown they must get at least 3/4 correct or 4/5 correct.) If a student has read carefully, the questions should be easy to answer correctly.

If a student fails the check, they will be sent back to re-read the section before doing the check again. If they pass on the second attempt, they can earn SRP but they will earn slightly fewer points than if they had passed on the first attempt. So, it is a good idea to remind your child to take their time and read carefully, as this is the best way to earn the maximum number of SRP.

**What will my child be reading?**

Students can choose from an appropriate range of e-books at their reading level and as they read, they'll answer questions to check they're reading carefully. Careful readers earn points, meaning they can prove they've been focusing and ultimately climb the league table!

Motivated readers who demonstrate consistent, careful reading can unlock 'Gold Reader'. This means they can read any paper book from the library or from home by scanning in its barcode.

**How do students log in?**

- Students log in at [sparxreader.com](https://sparxreader.com), finding their school and log in using their Sparx Maths details.

**Which 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 help by providing a quiet space and a set amount of time for your child to focus on their reading homework each week.
- The best way to support your child is to ask them about the book they're reading; which aspects they're enjoying, which characters and events they've recently read about or what they think could happen next.
- If students are struggling, they can speak to their English teacher and/or Tutor
- All instructions for homework can be found on Google Classroom for clarity

**How can I monitor the reading my child is doing?**

- You are able to keep track of your child's reading by clicking through the link to the Parent Portal in your Sparx Maths weekly homework email.
- On the Parent Portal, you can choose to view homework progress for any Sparx Learning system your child is using. For Sparx Reader, you can see progress with the current and previous homeworks, and browse books that your child has been reading as part of their current homework.
- When your child finishes their book, we will send you an email celebrating their achievement!

**What rewards are available for completion of Sparx Reader?**

Within school, students are able to receive different rewards for the dedication to Sparx Reader, which includes:

- Sparx Reader effort certificates
- Queue jumps for the restaurant
- Proud placement of their name on the Sparx Reader leaderboard in the English area
- Free Lunches for students with the most SRP (resets each fortnight to ensure fairness)
- Termly individual prize draws for students that keep their 100% completion Sparx all term

We are really looking forward to seeing our students continue to engage with Sparx Reader and reap not only the above rewards, but the huge benefits of reading regularly as well. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards



Jemma Monks

**Lead Practitioner in English**