



Clacton County High School

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Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations, Transforming Lives

September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We're excited to inform you that we are working with Sparx again this year to help your child complete their weekly homework for English, Mathematics, and Science.

During year 8 your child will only be set weekly homework for English, Mathematics, and Science and only receive homework via the Sparx platform. In addition to weekly homework your child will receive revision material for other subjects in preparation for assessments in January and May.

Year 8 homework will be set and due on the following days for each subject:

English - set on a Thursday and due back on the following Thursday

Maths - set on a Wednesday and due back on the following Wednesday

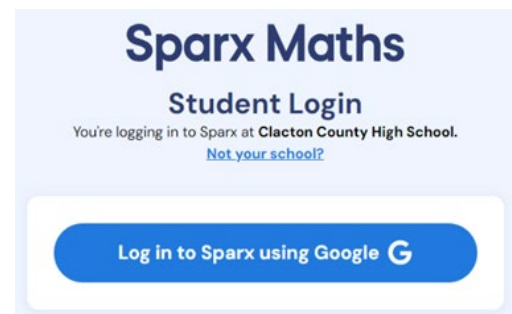
Science - set on a Wednesday and due back on the following Wednesday

How do students log in?

Students will already have the details to access their Sparx Maths and Sparx Reader accounts from last year and can access their Science account via their Sparx Maths platform. (sparxscience.com)

New students need to log in to SPARX using their school email and password (this is their Google account).

Do not try and enter a username and password.



[How to Log in to Google at Home](#)

[How to Log in to Sparx](#)

What devices are supported?

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

What can I expect from the homework?

Sparx Reader supports every student in achieving regular independent reading and building good reading habits, which is incredibly important for building vital literacy skills. Students can 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 (SRP) as their progress is tracked and they climb the league table to win prizes! Motivated readers demonstrating consistent, careful reading can unlock a Gold Reader pass. This means they can read any paper book from the library or from home by scanning in its barcode.

Sparx Maths provides personalised homework to each child, with challenging yet achievable questions tailored to their learning needs. The majority of homework will be based on topics that have been recently taught but it will also include some questions from previous topics to help reinforce their learning. Students will get immediate feedback for each question, showing students whether their answer was correct or if they need to have another try. While maths homework is accessed online, it is predominantly 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 so that your child can access help independently.

Sparx Science adjusts to each student's ability by adapting tasks based on a student's response to questions. Tasks will be based on content that students have covered in lessons but there will also be tasks that link to prior learning to ensure that topics and content is embedded.

How can I support my child with their homework?

- Provide a quiet space for your child to focus on their homework.
- Encourage them to start their homework early in case they need support from their teacher before the deadline.
- Talk to them about what they are learning and reading, what aspects they are enjoying and what aspects they are finding more challenging and why.
- Encourage your child to complete all questions as the system will not mark homework as complete until all the compulsory questions have been answered.

Important to note: All Sparx homework adapts to a student's ability level, so it's important that you don't help too much, e.g. by answering questions for them. This can lead to Sparx giving homework that is not suited to your child which can lead to students feeling that their homework is too easy or too difficult.

How can I monitor my child's homework?

Sparx will send parents/carers a weekly homework email giving access to the Parent Portal. You can choose to view homework progress for any Sparx learning system. See our ['Sparx - How to Guide'](#) for details on how to use the Sparx Parent Portal.

What support is available at CCHS to support your child to complete their homework?

- Homework club (free) Monday to Thursday 3.25-4pm in B12
- Sparx Reader homework club Monday lunchtime (free) in F13 (until the library is available)

What happens if my child does not complete their homework?

If your child fails to complete two consecutive pieces of homework in the same subject they will be issued with an after-school "catch up" with their teacher. During this conversation, your child will have the opportunity to discuss the problems they are having completing their homework. Failure to attend the catch-up conversation will result in a phone call home to help identify potential problems with accessing and completing homework.

We hope you agree that Sparx will play an exciting and important role in developing your child's understanding, success, and confidence in English, maths, and science. We are confident that setting clear expectations and deadlines for the completion of homework supports your child in creating regular home learning patterns which, in turn, will help them prepare and revise for future assessments and exams.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher who will be able to offer guidance and support.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Wicks
Head of English

Mrs L Ellis
Head of Science

Mr N Masters
Head of Maths