



All Saints College

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Monday 2nd October 2023

Dear parents,

We are excited to inform you that from **today** your child will be using Sparx Maths to complete their weekly maths homework. Sparx provides a highly personalised weekly homework to students, tailored to their attainment level and working speed. As a school, we have been using Sparx Maths since September 2022 and can already see the difference it makes for our pupils and their **confidence**. Your child will already be familiar with logging in and using the platform in school.

Your child's homework will be set on a day they have Mathematics and due the following week on the same day. It is one hour of practice a week. We know you want to support your child's maths progress, so we are sending this letter to explain how Sparx works and how you can help your child complete their homework each week.

What is Sparx Maths Homework?

- Sparx provides personalized 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'll 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. Sparx has a "bookwork checks" system to help students form this habit.
- Every question in Sparx has a support video attached to that your child can get help independently.

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.
- Check the weekly email you'll get from Sparx and praise your child for starting or completing their homework. Encourage them to finish it before the deadline if they haven't already done so.
- Try not to help your child with a question until they've 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.

What support is available at All Saints College?

- From 8.15am each morning there is a homework club, supported by teaching assistants, in the Careers Room on the Glen Road campus.
- Pupils in Beechmount are encouraged to use computers before school and after-school if access from home is an issue.
- Sparx Maths is also available on mobile devices as well as desktops and tablets.
- Students should seek help from their class teacher if still unsure after watching the video and using their class notes.
- For further information please see our website-
<https://www.allsaintscollege.co.uk/online-learning>

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

If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Kind regards,

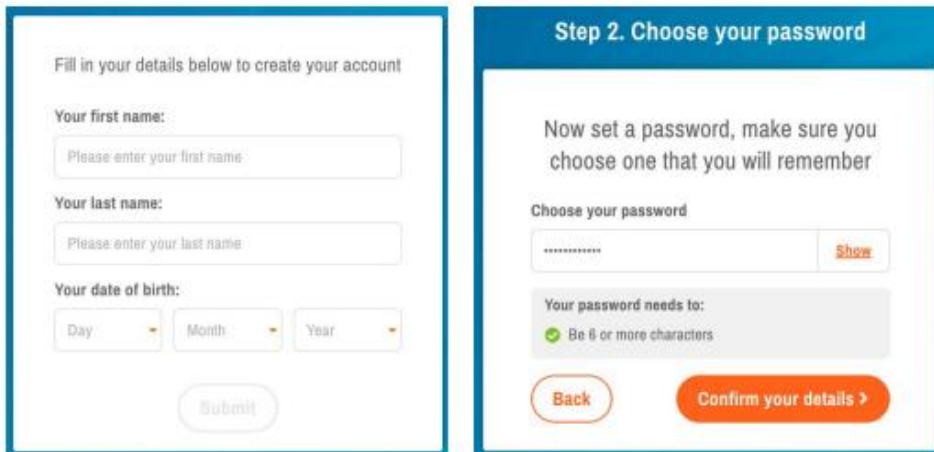
Mrs McKendry

Head of Mathematics

Principal: Mrs Bronagh Farrimond

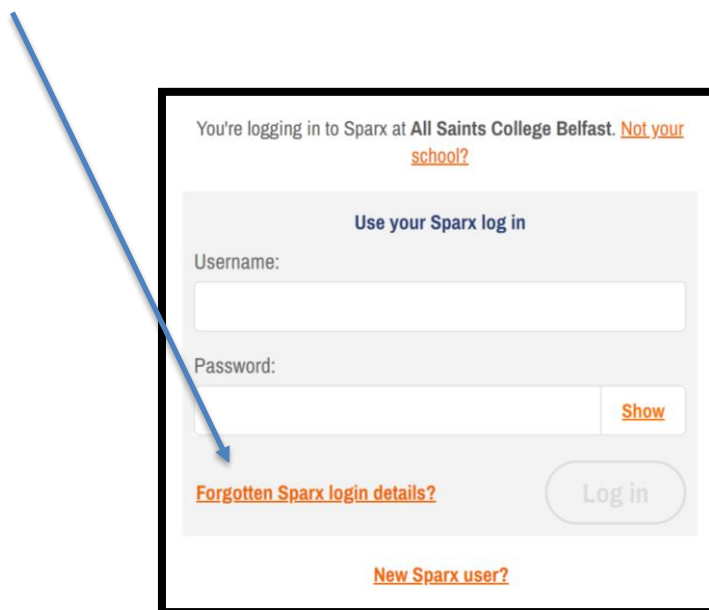
Getting logged in to Sparx

- Go to <https://sparx.co.uk>, click **login** in the top right corner, and select **student login**. Here they will be asked to start typing the name of their school before being prompted to select it from a dropdown list.
- If this is the first time your child has logged in, they will need to select **New Sparx User** and enter their name and their date of birth in order to confirm their username.



The image shows two screenshots of the Sparx account creation process. The first screenshot is titled 'Fill in your details below to create your account' and contains three sections: 'Your first name:' with a text input field, 'Your last name:' with a text input field, and 'Your date of birth:' with three dropdown menus for Day, Month, and Year. A 'Submit' button is at the bottom. The second screenshot is titled 'Step 2. Choose your password' and contains a text input field for the password, a 'Show' button, and a 'Your password needs to:' section with a green checkmark and the text 'Be 6 or more characters'. At the bottom are 'Back' and 'Confirm your details >' buttons.

- They will then be asked to set their own password, which they will need to remember! Note: This password needs to contain at least 6 characters. The screen will inform the student once their password passes this rule.
- If your child has forgotten their password, they should contact their teacher who will be able to reset it for them.



The image shows a screenshot of the Sparx login page. At the top, it says 'You're logging in to Sparx at All Saints College Belfast. [Not your school?](#)'. Below this is a 'Use your Sparx log in' section with 'Username:' and 'Password:' fields, and a 'Show' button. At the bottom of this section are two links: '[Forgotten Sparx login details?](#)' and a 'Log in' button. Below the entire section is a link: '[New Sparx user?](#)'. A blue arrow points from the 'Forgotten Sparx login details?' link to the 'Log in' button.