



St Benedict's

Catholic College

CHU/CSI

3rd November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Sparx Reader

We are excited to inform you that we have partnered with Sparx to start using their new reading platform, Sparx Reader. Year 9 and 10 will use the platform as part of a limited trial period. Our goal with this trial is to enhance our students' reading ability and engagement with reading.

From 17th November 2023, your child will use Sparx Reader to complete weekly homework. Your child's homework will be set on **Friday at 4.00 pm** and due the following **Friday at 8.00 am** each week.

Sparx Reader helps every student to achieve regular independent reading, which is incredibly important for building the vital literacy skills needed to access KS3 curriculums and GCSE exam papers in every subject.

Students can choose from a range of ebooks at their appropriate level. As they read, they will answer questions to check they are reading carefully. Careful readers earn points meaning they can track their progress and climb the league table!

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

How do they log in?

- Students log in at www.sparxreader.com on any smart phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer using their college Microsoft 365 account.

What 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 **do not** help by answering questions for them. If you help them, Sparx Reader might think they are a very strong reader and display books that are too difficult.
- You can help to provide a quiet space 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 are reading; what aspects they are enjoying, or what characters and events they have recently read about.

If you require any further information or have any questions, please contact Mrs Sullivan or me by email at admin@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Hunter
Teacher of English & Literacy co-ordinator