

Dear Parents/Carers,

07 October 2025

Re: Homework at St Marks Academy

At St Marks Academy, we believe that homework is a vital part of your child's learning journey. Homework not only reinforces what is taught in lessons but also helps students develop essential skills such as independent study, time management, and resilience. It plays a key role in ensuring that students are well-prepared for assessments and achieve their full potential.

Our Homework Expectations

- Homework must be completed on time and to a high standard.
- Students are expected to use their notes, **Curriculum Companion**, revision guides and online resources to support their work. The Curriculum Companions can be accessed using the link below

<https://www.stmarks.anthemtrust.uk/quality-of-education/curriculum-companions>
- Homework will be recorded on **Bromcom**, allowing parents to monitor completion and engagement.

Rewards for Homework

To celebrate effort and achievement:

- Students who complete homework on time will receive an achievement point logged on Bromcom as '**HW Completed**'.
- Our Homework Rewards Framework is outlined below:

Homework Rewards Framework	
Reward	Description
1. Weekly Recognition	<p>Teachers will log an achievement point on Bromcom whenever a piece of homework is completed and submitted on time. This will be recorded as 'HW Completed'. In addition, teachers may award an extra point for homework of an exceptionally high standard, recorded as 'Excellent HW'.</p> <p>Teachers will nominate 'Homework Heros of the Week' for each year group, with their names displayed on a showcase board in each department.</p> <p>Subject Recognition: Students who complete their homework on time each week across all subjects are recognised in coaching time and assemblies.</p>
2. Accumulated Points System	<p>Homework completion contributes to achievement/house points. Milestones trigger vouchers, certificates, badges, or privileges (e.g. skip the queue pass)</p>

3. Half-Term Celebration	Each subject recognises 1 - 2 students per half term for exceptional effort, improvement, or resilience. Names shared in bulletin or 'HW Wall of Fame'. These students will also be invited to our ACE Award Ceremony
4. Departmental "Homework Heroes"	Each subject recognises 1 - 2 students per half term for exceptional effort, improvement, or resilience. Names shared in bulletin or ' HW Wall of Fame '.
5. Parental Engagement	Positive communication home (emails, postcards, certificates) for consistent or exceptional effort.

Sanctions for Incomplete Homework

- If homework is not submitted on time, students will receive a **Homework Detention** every Friday, supervised in an IT room.
- Teachers may allow extensions for extenuating circumstances, but repeated failure to complete homework will involve parental communication and further interventions.
- If a student receives two detentions on a Friday, they will serve the longer detention.
- Our Homework Sanction Framework is outlined below:

Homework Sanction Framework	
Stage	Sanction
3 Missed HW in a week	30 minutes detention in an IT room – the expectation is that the student will complete any missed HW during this time.
4 missed HW in a week	40 minutes detention in an IT room – the expectation is that the student will complete any missed HW during this time.
5 missed HW in a week or 2 consecutive missed HW from the same subject	50 minutes detention in an IT room – the expectation is that the student will complete any missed HW during this time.
6+ missed HW in a week or 3 consecutive missed HW from the same subject	60 minutes detention in an IT room – the expectation is that the student will complete any missed HW during this time.
Ongoing refusal to complete HW	Parental meeting. If this continues then a SLT detention will be administered.

Our sanctions for homework will come into effect from the week beginning **Monday 13 October 2025**. Before this, we will share our new approach to homework with students during assemblies and coaching time to raise its profile. This will ensure all students are clear about our expectations, as well as the support and rewards available to them. By combining high expectations, strong support, and meaningful rewards, we aim to raise the profile of homework and highlight its vital role in helping students achieve their best.

Log in details for Core Subjects

Please find below a detailed breakdown of the platform used and how to log in for each of our four Core Subjects:

English

Your child's literacy homework is provided by Bedrock (app.bedrocklearning.org), an online platform which helps your child with the reading and vocabulary skills they need to be successful in all subjects.

Pupils must earn 20 points on Bedrock each week (deadline midnight on Sunday).

You have access to a Bedrock guardian account where you can track your child's work.

To create your Bedrock Learning Guardian Account:

1. Visit <https://app.bedrocklearning.org/>
2. Click on the 'Guardian sign up' button, then click 'School access code'.
3. Complete the Guardian sign-up form and enter your child's access code (email spurvis@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk if you do not have the code)
4. Check your email for your password and log in (be sure to check your junk folder if no email arrives).

We set notifications on **Bromcom/My Child at School** reminding parents/carers that their child needs to do their Bedrock. However, you must use **app.bedrocklearning.org** instead of Bromcom for live information about how much homework your child has completed.

If you have any problems or concerns, such as needing your child's login details or Guardian code, please do not hesitate to email me at spurvis@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk

Maths

We use Sparx Maths to set weekly homework for students in Yr7 -10. Students are set new tasks **every Thursday** and they have one week to complete it. They will be provided with a homework book in which they must write down all their calculations. Students without access to a device or the internet at home can complete their homework in the library at school. **Homework started on Thursday 18 September.**

Homework is considered complete only when 100% of the tasks are finished, which is achievable because tasks are personalised to each student's attainment level. Sparx allows students to watch accompanying videos or use the 'swap question' function if they struggle. Homework should not be left until the night before it is due, as this does not give students the opportunity to seek help. If further support is needed, students should speak directly with their teacher or attend our Sparx drop-in sessions, held every **Tuesday lunchtime in IT1.**

Logging into Sparx:

1. Go to the [Sparx Maths website](#)
2. Select our school
3. 'Log in to Sparx using Microsoft'
4. Enter the student's school email address and the same password they use for the school computers
5. If they forget their password, they should reset it with their IT teacher.

Homework completion is carefully monitored, and sanctions will be given in line with school policy where homework is missed or incomplete.

Science

At KS3, homework is set on a weekly basis on the **Carousel Platform**. Teachers will notify students of the assigned task and provide the relevant link. Details will also be uploaded onto **Bromcom** to ensure students have easy access to the homework. The weekly homework will target assessing the topics being taught on a weekly basis to identify areas of strengths and misconceptions that helps to inform teacher planning.

RE

At KS3, no online platform will be used for homework. All tasks must be completed either in students' exercise books or on the worksheet provided by the teacher. Homework will be set consistently on Bromcom and uploaded to Microsoft Teams, so that both students and parents can easily access the instructions and deadlines.

Weekly Homework Timetable for Core Subjects

The homework timetable for Core Subjects is shown below. This can also be found on Bromcom/My Child at School.

KS3 Homework Timetable for Core Subjects - Autumn Term 2025					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
KS3	Year 7	Science - 7A,B,C,E & F	Science - 7D English - all groups RE - 7A,B & D	Maths - all groups RE - 7E & F	RE - 7C
	Year 8	Science - all groups	English - all groups	Maths - all groups RE - 8D,E & F	RE - 8A,B & C
	Year 9		English - all groups Science - all groups RE - 9F	Maths - all groups RE - 9A,B,C & D	RE - 9E

SEND Homework Club

To further support our students, we are running a dedicated SEND Homework Club every Wednesday from 3:15–4:00pm in IT4. This will be staffed by our experienced SEND team, who will provide targeted support to help students complete their homework successfully in a calm and structured environment.

How can you support

We ask that you support your child by:

- Ensuring they have a quiet, well-resourced space to complete homework.
- Encouraging them to plan their time effectively and to speak to their teachers if they are struggling.
- Monitoring their homework progress and speaking with teachers if concerns arise.

Homework is a partnership between school, students, and parents. By working together, we can ensure that your child maximises their learning potential and develops the skills needed to succeed both academically and personally.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Warsop

Associate Assistant Principal Q of E