

14th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Supporting Your Child's Learning Through Homework

At Ellis Guilford School, we believe homework plays a vital role in helping children achieve academic success. Homework helps children consolidate learning from lessons, revisit and retain knowledge, prepare for future learning, and develop important independent study skills such as organisation, resilience and time management.

As part of our commitment to high standards, all children are expected to complete their homework each week.

Year 7 Only - Homework Arrangements

To support a successful transition to secondary school, Year 7 children will not be set formal homework until after the October half-term break. This allows them time to establish positive routines, settle into school life and become familiar with our expectations.

Following October half-term, Year 7 children will begin receiving homework in line with the school's homework policy.

What Homework Will My Child Receive?

Homework consists of two main elements:

1. Knowledge Checks

Children will be expected to revise key knowledge from subject knowledge organisers. These knowledge checks support long-term retention of learning and help children prepare for assessments. Children will be told which day each week their knowledge checks will occur and which week they will need to be revising.

2. Sparx Online Homework

Children will complete weekly homework through:

- **Sparx Maths (approximately 60 minutes per week)**

- **Sparx Reader** (approximately **30 minutes per week**)
- **Sparx Science** (approximately **30 minutes per week**)

This equates to around two hours of SPARX homework each week. These platforms provide personalised learning activities that help children practise essential skills, develop confidence in their learning and strengthen long-term retention of knowledge.

Sparx Homework Deadlines

For children in **Years 8-11**, Sparx homework is:

- Set each Friday at 4:00pm
- Due the following Friday at 4:00pm

Rewards for Completing Homework

We are committed to celebrating excellent homework habits. Children can earn:

- 30 Guilford Gold points for completing their homework
- 20 additional Guilford Gold points for Early Bird completion (completed by Tuesday at 3:00pm)
- Weekly competitions and recognition
- Freddo Friday rewards for top performers in Maths, Reader and Science
- Additional rewards and celebration events throughout the year

If Homework Is Not Completed

Homework is an important part of every child's education. Where homework is not completed:

- A C2 Incomplete Homework consequence will be issued
- 15 Guilford Gold points will be deducted
- Children may be directed to homework support sessions
- Contact may be made home where additional support is required

Homework Support Available

To ensure every child can access support with their homework, the following facilities are available:

Library (Year 7-9) and EGScellence Centre (Y10 & 11)

- Monday to Friday
- 3:00pm to 4:00pm

Additionally, Sparx Maths, Reader and Science homework support clubs will run throughout the week. Information regarding these sessions will be shared in due course.

Accessing Sparx

Children can access Sparx through the Ellis Guilford School website by:

1. Selecting **Children**
2. Opening the **Student Portal**
3. Your child will be asked to enter their **school email address** and **school computer password**.

Example email address for a Year 7 child named Tom Henson:

EGS-26tohe@ellisguilfordschool.org.uk

The first part of the email address is:

Year 7 - 'EGS-26'

Year 8 - 'EGS-25'

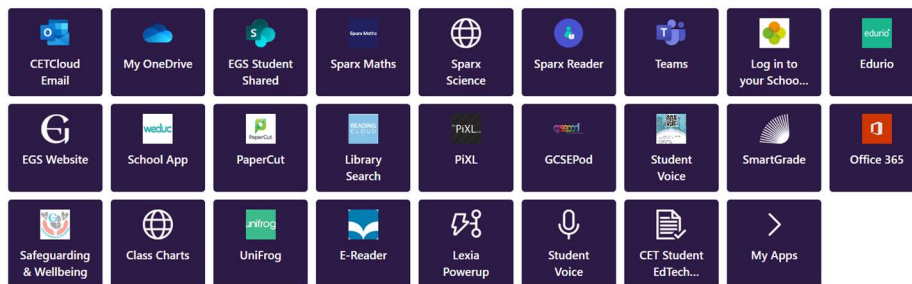
Year 9 - 'EGS-24'

Year 10 - 'EGS-23'

Year 11- 'EGS-22'

The next four letters are made up of the first two letters of your child's first name and the first two letters of your child's surname. The email address is completed with '@ellisguilfordschool.org.uk'

4. Once your child has logged into the Student Shared area they will see all of the online platforms for Sparx and Class Charts:



5. Your child can select an app and they will need to select 'Log in with Microsoft'.

How Parents and Carers Can Help

Parents and carers play a vital role in supporting homework completion. We encourage you to:

- Check Class Charts regularly
- Discuss homework expectations with your child
- Encourage your child to complete homework before the deadline
- Review and sign your child's planner each week
- Contact the school if additional support is required

Working together, we can ensure that every child develops the study habits, independence and resilience needed to achieve success both in school and beyond.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. Platten'.

Jordan Platten
Assistant Principal: Quality of Education