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13th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Homework – Guidance and Support

As our Year 7 children continue to settle into Ellis Guilford School, it is important that we start to further support children to build independent study habits and prepare them for future academic success.

I wrote to you previously on 14th September 2026, to inform you that Year 7 children would not be set homework until October. Now that the half-term holiday is upon us, the time has come for Year 7 children to begin their homework journey. Homework is a really important part of our children's education as it plays a vital role in reinforcing classroom learning.

At Ellis Guilford School, we always aim to ensure that homework is purposeful, manageable and directly supports the progress of our children.

From Friday 16th October, children will be set homework in the following ways:

- Maths, English and Science homework will be set weekly using a platform called Sparx. All Sparx homework is set at 4pm on a Friday. The deadline is 4pm on the following Friday.
- In all other subjects, children will complete paper-based knowledge quizzes. These will be handed out weekly to be tested the following week in lessons, to reinforce core knowledge and key concepts. Your child's knowledge organiser will also support them with this.

The first set of Sparx Homework will be set on Friday 16th October at 4pm and will be due in on Friday 6th November at 4pm. This will give children ample time to familiarise themselves with the Sparx platform and to complete the homework in Maths, English and Science.

Homework Tracking via Class Charts

All homework will be set on Class Charts, allowing parents and carers to support their child in tracking weekly homework tasks. Please check this regularly to help maintain consistency and organisation.

Homework Incentives

To encourage consistency and effort, children across all year groups will be awarded Guilford Gold for



completing their homework. These rewards recognise commitment, responsibility, and contribute to our wider culture of achievement and celebration.

Using Planners

Children are expected to record when homework is set and when it is due in their planners. This helps them stay organised and ensures they can manage their time effectively. We ask parents to check planners regularly and support their child in maintaining good homework habits.

How to Access the Online Platforms:

1. Open a web page and go to: portal.cetcloud.org.uk
2. Your child will need to use their school username and password (the same details they use for school computers).
3. Click on the application Sparx.
4. Select 'Log in with Microsoft' or 'Continue with Microsoft'.

Additional Support for Homework:

We are committed to supporting children with their homework beyond the classroom:

- The school library is open every evening until 4pm during term time, providing access to Chromebooks and quiet spaces for focused study.
- Individual subjects also offer Ellis Electives after school, giving children further opportunities to receive guidance and complete homework in a supportive environment.

If you have any questions or concerns about homework, please do not hesitate to contact me:
Jordan.platten@ellisguilfordschool.org.uk

Thank you for your continued support,

Warm regards,

Mrs J Platten
Assistant Principal