



Morton Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

RR/KRE

26th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

KS3: Homework

I am writing to inform you of some changes that are being made towards homework, considering the viewpoints of students and involving them in the decision making process. The focus of this renewed approach is to develop habits that will serve students well and support preparations for their futures. Consequently, **homework will now be provided for core subjects only**. As a result of this, homework will not be set in other subjects until further notice.

Homework will be set consistently on Sparx to ensure there is a simple approach, with one week being provided for the three individual one hour tasks set. It is advised that students engage with homework on the days they are set as a means of having a clear routine:

- **Monday will be Sparx Reader**

- **Wednesday will be Sparx Maths**

- **Friday will be Sparx Science**

It is hoped that by focusing on fewer subjects this will provide students with a better and more achievable balance – allowing a more dedicated focus towards what is being set. As always, there will be supervised support available during social times and after school should students who are finding any aspects too challenging.

However, students who wish to continue to push themselves further can always focus on the following as well:

Sparx Maths

There will be two additional tasks available each week for which 'Character Virtue Merits – Responsibility' will be given if students complete this, with 'XP Boost' providing extra practice on the same topics as the compulsory homework and 'Target Tasks' designed to be the next steps to help make faster progress.

Sparx Reader

Students can continue with the book they have been set to progress further.

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Sparx Science

Students can choose to access any of the independent learning at any point.

For this approach to be successful and sustainable, the expectation is that there is full engagement with everything that is set. **The Academy have simplified homework to core subjects only because ensuring success by all students is what is most important.**

If a student is absent, it is still expected that the homework is completed (unless there is a long-term absence or another mitigation). If a student does not complete their homework, they are putting themselves at a disadvantage compared to others, which is why purposeful engagement is a requirement.

Moving forward, completion rates will be carefully monitored and successes will be rewarded. For example, there will be the launch of 'Inter-House Competitions' to promote a sense of competition and camaraderie. The Academy are setting students a target of making it into at least fifth place in United Learning within the coming weeks.

Homework plays a crucial role in supporting students' progress by:

- Reinforcing and consolidating learning from the classroom;
- Developing independent study skills, time management, and self-discipline;
- Fostering a sense of responsibility and commitment to learning;
- Providing opportunities for further exploration and extension of subject knowledge;
- Encouraging critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.

As has always been the case, students who do not engage with homework will receive a one hour after-school detention.

If you have any questions or require any support, please do not hesitate to contact me and I'd like to thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Robinson

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Assistant Principal