

24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Year 9 English Homework**

We are pleased to share with you the online platform that we will be using with Year 9 students to complete their English Homework. We have partnered with Sparx and will be using their reading platform, Sparx Reader. Beginning today, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April your child will be using Sparx Reader to complete weekly homework. Students have been trialling this platform for some time and we are now ready to roll this out as part of a weekly homework standard.

Sparx Reader helps every student to achieve regular independent reading, which is incredibly important for building vital literacy skills. Your child's homework will be set on Wednesday and due the following Wednesday.

Students can choose from a range of ebooks at their appropriate level and as they read, they'll answer questions to check they're reading carefully. Careful readers earn points meaning they can track their progress and climb the league table while also improving their reading age.

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

**How do they log in?**

- Students log in at [www.sparxreader.com](http://www.sparxreader.com). They will need to find their school and log in using their Sparx Maths details. They **must** click the option to 'Log in to Sparx using Microsoft'.

**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 **don't** help by answering questions for them. If you help them, Sparx Reader might think they're a very strong reader and show them books that are too difficult.
- You can however 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're reading; what aspects they're enjoying, or what characters and events they've recently read about.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher or Miss Magnay (Key Stage 3 English Lead) via [enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org](mailto:enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org).

Yours sincerely,



Mr L Kernaghan  
Head of English