

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We're excited to let you know that we've partnered with Sparx Learning to start using their new reading platform, Sparx Reader.

It's really important to us that young people are able to practise careful, silent reading for a decent amount of time, without distraction. Sparx Reader reassures us as teachers and parents that focused reading is happening, and that readers of all abilities feel successful and motivated.

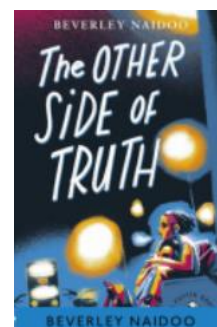
During the week commencing Monday 15th September your child will be introduced to and will start using Sparx Reader to complete weekly homework.

Your child's Sparx homework will be set online on a **Monday** and due on **Friday** every week. This is different to your child's READ ILT that is set on a Friday and due in on a Monday.

Students can choose from an appropriate range of eBooks at their reading level and as they read, they'll answer questions to check they're reading carefully. Careful readers earn points, meaning they can prove they've been focusing and ultimately climb the league table! Motivated readers who demonstrate consistent, careful reading unlock **Gold Reader**. This offers them the opportunity to read *any* paper book from the library or from home by scanning in its barcode.

How is this different from their READ ILT: The Other Side of the Truth?

- Studies show that the more students read, the more they progress in their literacy and the higher their future results will be.
- The READ curriculum ensures that EVERY student has a physical book to read that can be discussed and shared as a class. This ILT is done on paper booklets and monitored in class by their READ English teacher.
- Sparx reading supports their literacy in an individualised way; every student is reading a text of their choice from the selection available targeted at their specific reading level.



Scan the Sparx Code: We encourage you to watch a series of short videos, explaining what Sparx Reader is and how it works, available at <https://sparxreader.com/parents/> or by scanning this QR code:



How do they log in?

- Students log in at **sparxreader.com**. They will need to find their school and log in using their Sparx Maths details.

Which 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 HELP:** Provide a quiet space and a set amount of time for your child to focus on their Sparx reading homework each week.
- The **BEST** way to support your child is to ask them about the book they're reading. You might ask which aspects they're enjoying, which characters and events they've recently read about or what they think could happen next.

How can I monitor the reading my child is doing?

- You are able to keep track of your child's reading by clicking through the link to the Parent Portal in your Sparx weekly homework email.
- On the Parent Portal, you can choose to view homework progress for any Sparx Learning system your child is using. For Sparx Reader, you can see progress with the current and previous homeworks, and browse books that your child has been reading as part of their current homework.
- When your child finishes their book, we will send you an email celebrating their achievement!

What support is available at Brinsworth Academy?

- The school library is open daily: at break, lunch and after school, for students to access devices and gain support.
- Weekly emails will be sent home to give deadline reminders.

If you have any questions, please contact Miss H.Gardner at h.gardner@nclt.ac.uk (working days are Monday – Wednesday)

Kind regards,



Miss H.Gardner
Teacher of English