

King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys, Northfield Road, Birmingham, B30 1DY

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Educational excellence for our City

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We're excited to let you know that we are partnered with Sparx Learning, using their 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.

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 can unlock Gold Reader. This means they can read any paper book from the library or from home by scanning in its barcode.

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?

Headteacher: Mr D Clayton

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 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 by providing a quiet space and a set amount of time 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; 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 can keep track of your child's reading by clicking through the link to the Parent Portal in your Sparx Maths weekly homework email.
- On the Parent Portal, you can choose to view homework progress for any Sparx Learning system
 your child is using. In Sparx Reader, you can see progress with current and previous homework,
 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 KNSB?

- Lunchtime library catchups.
- After school homework club.
- Dedicated Sparx Reader Leader.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms Blythe on the enquiries email.