

9th February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Extended Learning Task Update

Following recent feedback on our Extended Learning, we have made some adjustments to the online platforms that we use. This includes introducing a new platform, Educake, and reintroducing Sparx. These online platforms promote independent learning and encourage good learning habits to support achievement through recall and retrieval practices. We will continue to monitor progress by providing students with regular feedback on their Extended Learning Tasks to raise levels of achievement and build better student expectations.

Please see further information regarding both Extended Learning platforms below.

Educake

All students have recently received their username and password from their science teacher for this new online homework and revision platform, Educake.

Educake can be accessed on a PC, tablet or smartphone via their website (www.educake.co.uk), or by downloading the app.

Your child will be set a quiz on Educake every week, however quizzes can also be set by your child at home for extra practice using the revision wizard. Every question is instantly marked, and they will receive feedback immediately.

When your child first uses Educake there are a couple of tips we would like them to remember:

- **Small spelling mistakes are OK** - For most questions in Educake, answers can have up to two letters wrong and it will still be accepted. If your child feels it is incorrectly marked, they can click the 'challenge my mark' button and the teacher will check the answer and provide feedback.
- **Do not answer in complete sentences** - Educake questions are retrieval based so require mostly single word or multiple-choice answers.
- **Quizzes can be attempted multiple times if required** - This is to help raise student confidence.

Over time, this app identifies students' strengths and weaknesses to help us provide more specific and timely support. Regular retrieval practice using Educake has been shown to raise GCSE grades. As a school, we are confident that Educake will help us ensure gaps in learning are identified, allowing us to put interventions in place to support your child to aspire and achieve.

A video has been placed on our website which demonstrates how Educake works. Please use the following link to access this [Extended Learning Tasks - Holderness Academy](#).

Sparx

After trialling the use of Seneca, our Maths Faculty have decided to return to the Extended Learning platform, Sparx.

Sparx can be accessed on a PC, tablet or smartphone via their website www.Sparx.co.uk.

Sparx Extended Learning Tasks will be set weekly, however there is extra optional work that students can complete, as well as independent learning that can be used for revision.

To log on to Sparx, students need to click the 'Log on with Microsoft' button, which will automatically log students on to Sparx using their school account.

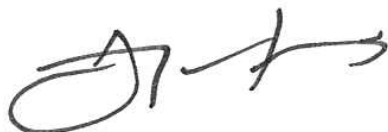
Sparx helps teachers identify students' strengths and weaknesses and can help them to provide more specific support to students and their classes. Sparx also uses an algorithm to tailor tasks to individual students based on their strengths and weaknesses. It is therefore important that students work is not completed by anyone other than themselves. Students are allowed to ask for help and support but do need to complete their own work. Videos are also available for students to watch when they are stuck or need further support.

Students can complete their Extended Learning Tasks at homework club, this takes place after school on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

If you have any questions regarding any of our Extended Learning Task platforms, or require any further support, please contact us via our dedicated email address ExtendedLearningTask@holderness.academy.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Tupai', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Tupai
Associate Assistant Headteacher