



# NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

SCHOOLS GUIDE  
2025

STATE SECONDARY  
SCHOOL OF THE YEAR  
LONDON

4 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Use of Sparx Science for homework with Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

I am writing to inform you that from this week, we are starting to use the science homework platform, Sparx Science, to set homework for students in both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. This will assist them in completing review across a wide range of topics from their science course on a weekly basis.

Students in Year 7 will need to complete 30 minutes of homework and in Year 8 it will be 40 minutes each week. Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 will need to complete 90 minutes of homework each week (which is to allow 30 minutes per science subject). On some occasions, the homework on Sparx may be shortened to allow time for completion of an additional written task. This will be communicated at the time of setting homework.

Your daughter will have the homework set on Tuesday mornings from 7am and it will be due for completion by the end of the day on the following Monday. I will be monitoring completion of work. Detentions (for non-completion) will take place on Wednesday lunchtimes and these will be noted on Arbor.

**How do students log in?** Students log in to [Sparx Science - Home](#). They will need to find the school's name and log in using their Sparx Maths details. Your child can access Sparx Science on any device that connects to the internet with a web browser.

**How can I support my child with their homework?** Sparx Science adapts to each student's ability level, so it's important that you don't help too much, e.g. by answering questions for them. This can lead to Sparx giving homework that is too long or hard in future. It is recommended that students answer each question themselves, and you can give help if they are stuck with the support and follow-up questions. You can also help to provide a quiet space for your child to focus on their homework each week.

**How can I monitor my child's homework?** You can keep track of the homework your child is doing by clicking through the link to the Parent Portal in the weekly email you receive for Sparx Maths. On the Parent Portal, you can choose to view homework progress for any Sparx learning system your child is using.

**What support is available at school?** Should your child need access to a computer for completion of this work, computers are available in the library at lunchtime and after school.

**Headteacher:** Mr Alan Blount, MA, BSc, QTS

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's science teachers.

Yours sincerely

*Jocelyn Lebreuilly*

**Mrs J Lebreuilly**  
**Head of Science**