

West Derby School

364 West Derby Road, Liverpool L13 7HQ. tel: 0151 235 1300
email: admin@westderbyschool.co.uk web: www.westderbyschool.org
Headteacher: Mrs S Graham



Dear Parent/Carer,

As you are probably aware, homework is an important part of school work and, if done regularly and advised, helps pupils to learn independently, re-enforces the learning done during school time and helps develop good self-discipline and work ethic. We encourage pupils and parents to ensure that good routines are in place at home, and that homework is done regularly and to the best of their ability. Research shows that those pupils who complete homework to re-enforce their learning outperform pupils who do not complete homework regularly. It is therefore vital that we work together to develop good routines.

Firstly, we acknowledge that homework does not always have to happen at home. Some students, for example, choose to use the ICT suites at lunchtime to complete upcoming assignments. Some students may not have a quiet space to work or struggle to plan their studies, so we have rebranded 'Homework' as 'Independent Learning', where our students know that they can complete this work on school premises or at home with a more formal structure in place. We are also adding 'Independent Learning Clubs' to the lunch time and after school activities schedule. Students may use this time to complete their work independently, but under the supervision of a member of staff. Please see the timetable at the end of this letter.

We have three main online learning resources for homework.

1. Satchel:One – Student online planner with links to homework.
2. Seneca Learning – Interactive learning platform with each of the homework tasks.
3. Sparx Maths – Online learning platform with each of the Maths homework tasks.

All students can access these after they have logged in to their school email account. We have linked these platforms to this to avoid students needing multiple passwords. So once students have logged in to their school email, they can access their accounts on each of the above platforms. They just need their school email address and password. All students have been shown how to log in to these in their recent computing lessons.

The following link details how your son should log in to his school email account.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N0mMtQnKyGE>

You can also notify us of any issues via the school homework support email:

hwsupport@westderbyschool.co.uk.



The Satchel:One platform allows you as parents/carers to know when your son will have 'Independent Learning' assignments. It is like an online student planner. Your son will bring home your personal log in details in the next few days, so please look out for this. The details of each assignment will be posted on Satchel:One, so it is imperative that all parents/carers download the app to keep track of the completion of these assignments. In some subjects students will be given a classbook to write their homework in. They will be expected to keep these safely in their school bags. These will be part of our students' essential school equipment along with their pencil case and school bag. We will use Satchel:One to record students' assignment completion. So, it is vital that you download the app. You will receive a report on your son's

submission rate. You can also log in using your son's email address and password. If you have any issues logging in please refer to the school website for guidance here:

<https://westderbyschool.org/pupils/homework/>

Satchel:One also has an attendance feature which means that you will have increased access to your child's personal data i.e. their attendance percentage and punctuality. As with all processors, the school has agreements in place to ensure that personal data is used in a secure and compliant manner.

Please click here for guidance on setting up your Satchel:One account:

<https://help.satchelone.com/en/articles/5472656-parent-video-guides>

Seneca Learning Platform

As a school we have subscribed to the Seneca Learning platform. Teachers will set homework using this platform. This is an excellent learning resource that allows students to complete tasks online. It will mark the work and identify where a student needs to improve. Teachers can then see what areas need further work. As parents you will also be able to set up your own parent account. This alerts you when a homework has been set, then tells you when or if your son has completed it, along with their percentage score. This allows you to chase up any missing homework or encourage them to try again to improve their percentage score. Setting up a parent account is very simple. Search Seneca Learning and following the instructions on their website.

Sparx Maths

Maths teachers will set weekly tasks on this learning platform. Students will have a series of questions to complete based on the current and previous topics. They will be expected to write their working out in their Maths homework book which their teachers will provide. They will be expected to show this to their teachers on a regular basis. Sparx allows teachers and parents see how well a student understands a topic. It marks the work immediately. It will also recommend some learning videos when a student is struggling, and will then assign further questions to test their learning. To find out more about Sparx Maths click here:

<https://support.sparx.co.uk/docs/sparx-math-homework-for-parents>

Please encourage your child to develop good homework routines at home; some possible examples could be:

- To spend a set or agreed amount of time working independently each weekday evening in a quiet room.
- No electronic games/TV/social media/internet access before their assignments are completed or until they have worked for the agreed amount of time.
- Ensure that they do regular work at home. Quite often, pupils will say that they don't have homework; this is sometimes the case, but often an excuse! If they don't have independent learning then reading and/or revising is a good way of re-enforcing learning and developing good habits/routines. A small amount of work regularly is often better than a large amount at the 'last minute'
- Avoid doing homework very late at night.

Over the coming weeks and months we will be strongly re-enforcing our school independent learning policy with pupils and we ask for your support with this. Pupils that do not complete homework will be recorded on Satchel:One and a message will be sent home via Weduc informing parents of their child's failure to complete an assignment. Each time this happens within the same faculty/department, unfortunately consequences will be put in place in line with our school policy. These consequences will be dependent on the number of occurrences and severity of the problem. Consequences could be one or more of the following: break/lunchtime detentions; after school detentions; independent learning monitoring cards; referral to Head of Department or PPL; and meetings/phone calls with parents to try and resolve the issue.

Thank you for your co-operation with the above. If you would like to discuss any aspect of this letter please get in touch with myself or your child's PPL.

Yours faithfully,

S. Wilkinson
Deputy Headteacher

Independent Learning Support Clubs:

Students can go to any of the subjects below to complete their homework in school. They must ensure they attend before the homework due in date.

Week A+B	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Lunch 12.35 to 1.15pm	Maths D22	Spanish CB W15	Art ML W11 Maths D22 Music KE (W6) History BH Q6
After School 3.15pm to 4pm	Art W11 & W12 Music W6	The Hub Homework Support All subjects	RS (HB D5) English (Theatre)

Year 7 Independent Learning Timetable: When will it be set?

In some cases, not all Year 7s will be taught Spanish on the same day for example, so their teacher will tell their class which day they will be set homework. All homework will be on Satchel:One so students have that to help them remember when each homework must be completed.

Subject	How Often?	When?
English	Weekly	Fridays(Satchel:One)
Maths	Weekly	Wednesdays(Sparx Maths)
Science	Weekly	Set 4 = Thursdays Sets 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 = Wednesdays
History	Fortnightly	Week B – Seneca Learning
Geography	Fortnightly	Week A Set Monday – Seneca Learning
Religious Studies	Fortnightly	Teacher will indicate day set – Seneca Learning
Spanish	Weekly	Teacher will indicate day set – Seneca Learning
Computing	Fortnightly	Teacher will indicate day set – Seneca Learning
Music	Two per half term	Teacher will indicate day set – Satchel:One
Art	Fortnightly	Week A – Satchel:One
Design/Food Technology	Fortnightly	Week A – Seneca Learning
PE	Once per half term	Teacher will indicate day set – Satchel:One
Drama	Two per half term	Teacher will indicate day set – Satchel:One

This guide will support your son to log in to Satchel:One



SatchelOne



To access Satchel please access the following the link;
<https://www.satchelone.com/login>

You need to click the option "Sign in with Office 365". A pop up will come on your screen, if requested, please type in your school email address and the same password you use to log on on the PCS in school. Once you have done this a new page will load on your screen.

You will see the following prompt. It will ask you for permission. Please click in the box that says "Consent on behalf of your organisation" then click the accept button. This will link your school account to Satchel. Once you have done this you will not need to consent again.

Turning on notifications:
Once logged into Satchel click the option account settings located in

[Manage notifications](#)

Email notifications

- Comments
- Tasks to collect
- Notices
- Daily digest
- Weekly digest
- Detentions

the top left. Once this has loaded, scroll down on the page and you will be given options to enable notifications via email. Please turn these on.

If you have forgotten your school email or password please contact hwsupport@westderbyschool.co.uk

This guide will support you to log in to Seneca Learning.



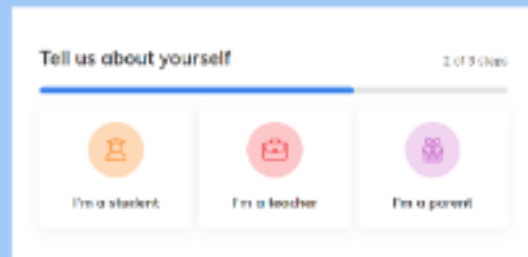
Get Started as a Parent
Monitor your child's progress in all their subjects for FREE!

1. Sign up for a free parent account

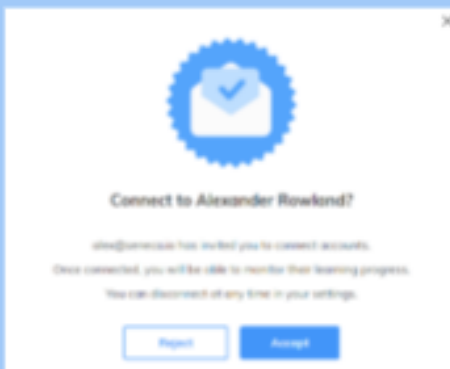
Sign up



2. Tell us about yourself



3. Accept the connection



4. Track your child's learning

You have visibility of assignments, courses and a live study feed.



Monitor your child's progress for free