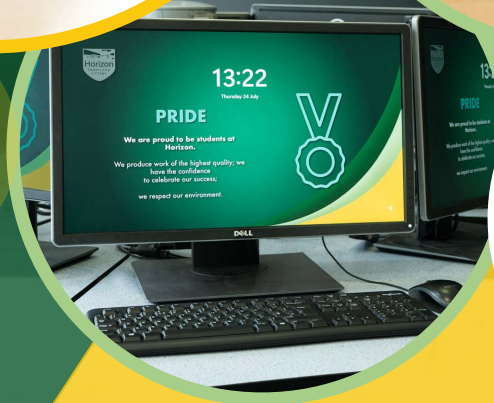


Horizon Community College



Online Platform Guide For Parents/Carers



Supporting Your Child's Independent Learning:

A Guide to Our Online Platforms

At Horizon, we believe that home learning plays a vital role in helping students develop essential independent study and revision skills. By engaging with home learning and independent study/revision, students not only deepen their understanding of key subjects but also build the habits needed to make even quicker progress in their education.

This document provides an overview of the online platforms we use - Sparx Reader (KS3 only), Sparx Maths, Sparx Science, Educake and Focus on Sound (KS4 only) and explains how they support your child's learning. You'll find clear guidance on the purpose of each platform, how they enhance independent study, and QR code so you watch a short clip demonstrating how the platform functions to help you support your child in using them effectively. Together, we can ensure your child has the tools they need to succeed.

Please note, frequency of when Home Learning is set for students can be found on the school website:

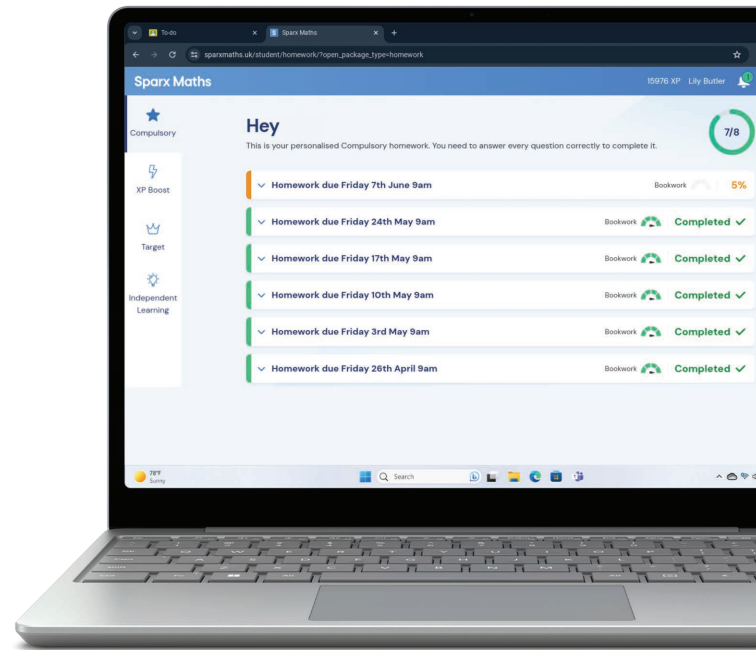


Accessing Online Platforms

This page will explain how to access online platforms in school, at home on a mobile device/tablet or at home on a desktop computer.

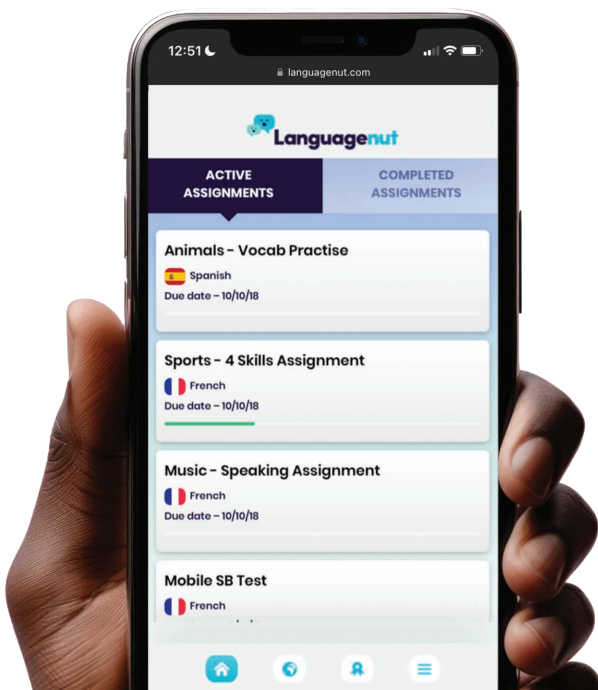
AT HOME ON DESKTOP:

Scan this QR code to watch a clip demonstrating how to access online at home on a desktop.



AT HOME ON A MOBILE PHONE/TABLET:

Scan this QR code to watch a clip demonstrating how to access online platforms at home on a mobile phone/tablet.



Online Platform Breakdown

Platform	KS3 Subjects	KS4 Subjects
Sparx Reader	English	
Sparx Maths	Maths	Maths
Sparx Science	Science	Science
Educake	Geography History MFL	Geography History PE (BTEC) MFL Business Studies
Focus on Sound		Music

Sparx Reader



Sparx Reader- KS3 only

Sparx Reader is a platform designed to help children develop strong reading habits and improve literacy skills. It offers a wide selection of books tailored to each child's reading level, ensuring they can read at a pace and complexity that suits them. While reading, children answer comprehension questions to deepen understanding and earn points, making the experience fun and motivating.

The platform supports regular reading, which is crucial for building vocabulary, confidence, and a love of learning. It also includes features to support all learners including different fonts and reading aids to cater to diverse needs.

Sparx Maths



Sparx Maths

Sparx Maths is an online platform that helps children develop strong maths skills through personalised tasks tailored to their learning level. It aligns assignments with classroom teaching, reinforcing understanding and boosting confidence. With nearly 50,000 questions and 10,000 support videos, it provides comprehensive resources to support learning.

Parents can use the Parent Portal to track progress and encourage consistent study habits, while teachers gain real-time insights to offer targeted support. Backed by research from the University of Cambridge, Sparx Maths has proven to improve student outcomes, making maths engaging, effective, and accessible for all learners.



Educake

Educake is an online learning platform designed to help students succeed by making independent study and home learning more effective and engaging in Geography, History, PE (KS4) and Science. It provides thousands of curriculum-aligned quizzes that are automatically marked, giving students instant feedback to reinforce their knowledge and correct mistakes quickly. This approach builds confidence and supports long-term learning.



Focus on Sound- KS4 only

Languagenut is a fun and interactive way for your child to learn languages! Use in French, Spanish and Polish at Horizon, it helps students develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through engaging activities.

The platform supports what your child is learning in school, while encouraging independent practice at home. Teachers can assign tasks and track progress, offering personalised support. There is a mobile app too, allowing your child to practice anytime, anywhere, making learning flexible and enjoyable!