Yate Academy's top strategies checklist for embedding Sparx Science

Adaptable ideas to support Sparx in your own school

Make the weekly routine visible and predictable

- ☐ Set science homework for all classes at the same time each week with the same deadline
- ☐ Remind students regularly and display completion in lessons
- ☐ Share progress with staff early enough so they can offer encouragement or support
- ☐ Make expectations and follow-up consistent across the school

Keep expectations high and support students to succeed

- ☐ Be clear that homework is only complete when it is 100% completed
- ☐ Provide a daily homework club with devices and access to subject specialists
- ☐ Encourage students to seek help before the deadline
- ☐ Use consequences, such as detentions, to give students structured time and support to complete missing / incomplete homework

Turn data into action before students fall behind

- ☐ Review overall completion data throughout the week at classroom, department and leadership level
- ☐ Where completion is low, look beyond the completion rate to see if there are trends what each student has attempted or missed
- ☐ If needed, use this insight to provide targeted support and inform conversations with families
- ☐ Follow up quickly and constructively when completion begins to drop

And for the hardest to engage, understand barriers and build from small wins

- ☐ Start by asking what is making completion difficult for the student
- ☐ Temporarily adjust the length, difficulty or topics where appropriate
- ☐ Recognise initial success, then gradually build the level of challenge back up

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Connect homework to lessons, assessments and revision

- ☐ Use Sparx Science insights to identify questions and topics students have found difficult
- ☐ Revisit these areas in lessons to address gaps and misconceptions
- ☐ Share relevant independent-learning topics before assessments and mocks
- ☐ Help students see how regular homework practice supports learning in the classroom

Recognise effort and celebrate success

- ☐ Display completion and recognise students who are ahead of schedule
- ☐ Use rewards, house points and friendly competition to make effort visible
- ☐ Celebrate strong-performing classes as well as individual students
- ☐ Recognise the staff who are helping students build positive homework routines

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