

The logo for The Sweeney Park School is centered on a dark blue background. It features the words "THE", "SWEYNE PARK", and "SCHOOL" in a light cream-colored serif font. "THE" is at the top, "SWEYNE PARK" is in the middle, and "SCHOOL" is at the bottom. Each word is flanked by thin horizontal lines. The entire logo is set against a dark blue rectangular field, which is bordered on the left by a light blue vertical bar and on the right by a yellow vertical bar.

THE
SWEYNE PARK
SCHOOL

Welcome to Year 9

Head of Year: Mr Jones

Deputy Headteacher: Mr O'Brien

A decorative horizontal bar at the bottom of the slide, consisting of a yellow top section and a blue bottom section.

The Cornerstones of Learning

PREPARE



I arrive ready to learn and prepared for a challenge. I know that preparing means more than just turning up. I have to

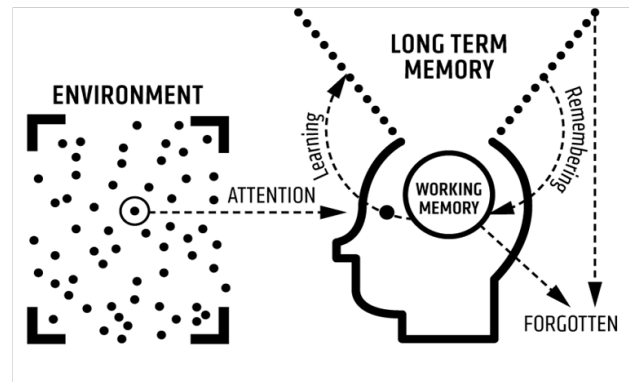
- think ahead
- recall what I know
- get ready to connect ideas

RESPECT



I take responsibility for my learning by

- engaging fully
- focussing my attention on what is important
- listening to others and contributing positively



Environment- The place where you learn

Attention- You can only learn what you pay attention to.

Learning- A long-term change to what you understand

Long-Term memory- Your brain's unlimited storage area.

Remembering When you remember, your brain pulls something out of long-term memory so you can use it right now.

Working memory- Your brain working hard on the current problem

Forgotten If you don't revisit what you've learned you risk forgetting important information.

LEARN



I know that learning means a long term change in what I know or can do. This means

- Doing more, thinking hard, and trying again
- Listening to feedback
- Being able to demonstrate this in my work

Mistakes help me grow. Checking my understanding shows what I can remember and where I need help to strengthen my learning. I check my understanding by

- working independently,
- answering questions,
- responding to feedback

CHECK



Key Stage 3 Curriculum Organisation

2025-2026

Pupils are in the same set across a number of subjects.

Literacy Based Subjects	Stem Subjects
• English • Literacy • <i>Reading</i> • MFL • Geography • History • RE	• Maths • Science • Digital Literacy

Key Stage 3 Curriculum Organisation 2025-2026

Tutor Group Subjects

- Art
- CP
- Drama
- Music

DT Subjects

- No change:
Set across
the band

PE

- No change:
Set across
the band

Uniform

Jewellery:

- Only stud earrings are allowed
- **Rings are not allowed**
- We do not recommend nose piercings, but if worn they must be a discreet stud
- No other facial piercings are allowed

Make-up etc:

- Any make-up/false eyelashes/eyelash extensions worn should be subtle and professional
- **False nails are not allowed**
- Hairstyles should be professional. Extreme colours, cuts and styles are not acceptable



Essential Equipment

- Black or blue pens (at least two)
- Pencil and rubber
- Ruler (30cm)
- Pencil sharpener
- Highlighter
- Scientific calculator (**Casio fx-85GT CW**)
- Compass and protractor
- **Whiteboard pen (blue or black)**
- Glue stick
- School bag large enough to carry books and equipment

Key Stage 3 Assessment

- Each pupil has a **minimum target grade** for each subject, which they are expected to attain by the end of the academic year.
- Pupils are assessed in each of the **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** for each subject studied. These assessments contribute towards the **tracked grade** which can be seen on the Go4Schools pupils page.
- Detailed information about performance on each KPI can be found on the progress tab on the Go4Schools app.

Assessment Grading Key Stage 3

Assessment Grade	Guidance
Not accessing yet	Pupils are not accessing enough content across parts of the Year 7/8/9 curriculum yet.
Emerging	Pupils emerging show basic understanding, apply a few concepts and skills in a limited way, and use some subject-specific vocabulary correctly. Pupils are on track for GCSE Grade 1-3 or Level 1 (P1; M1; D1).
Developing	Pupils developing can remember facts, terms, and definitions. They show understanding of various concepts and skills by explaining, demonstrating, summarising, or interpreting information. Pupils are on track for GCSE Grade 4 or Level 2 (P2).
Securing	Pupils securing have a good understanding of key concepts and can use or demonstrate their knowledge and skills independently. Pupils are on track for GCSE Grade 5-6 or Level 2 (M2).
Mastering	Pupils mastering have a deep understanding of key concepts and apply/demonstrate their knowledge and skills with confidence and precision across a range of contexts. They consistently work independently and show strong analytical and problem-solving abilities. Pupils are on track for GCSE Grade 7-9 or Level 2 (D2; S2).

How do we Determine Progress at Key Stage 3?

A child's progress is measured by comparing their tracked grade against their minimum target grade. This will enable us to see whether a pupil is above, in line with, or below expected progress.

Reports are written each term and teachers record whether pupils are making:

- Above expected progress
- Expected progress
- Below expected progress.

Homework

- Set on the **Go4Schools** platform
- Homework should: **Support, Extend, Inform, Revise, Revisit or Practise.**

The suggested standardised amount of time per homework according to age, per subject per week:

Year 7:	15—20 mins
Year 8:	15—20 mins
Year 9:	20—25 mins
Year 10	20—30 mins
Year 11	25—30 mins

Homework

- Teachers should be setting at least the suggested minimum amount of home learning for each class they teach per week.
- Online platforms can be used to support homework, e.g., SENECA can be used for most subjects, apart from vocational qualifications.
- At KS3 homework tasks will include knowledge retrieval and practise; integrating some challenging pre/reading material; subject literacy and spelling.
- At KS4 and KS5 homework tasks will include a mix of knowledge retrieval and exam practice, and longer homework, such as essay writing, or that which may contribute to NEA components where appropriate.
- No next day homework to be set and pupils should have a suggested minimum of 48 hours to complete.
- Homework should be completed fully and to a high standard or else re-issued followed by an appropriate sanction if not addressed.

The logo for Sparx Maths, featuring the word "Sparx" in a smaller font above the word "Maths" in a larger, bold font, both in white text on a blue background.The logo for Sparx Reader, featuring the word "Sparx" in a smaller font above the word "Reader" in a larger, bold font, both in white text on a purple background.The logo for Sparx Science, featuring the word "Sparx" in a smaller font above the word "Science" in a larger, bold font, both in white text on a teal background.

Sparx Online Learning

- Pupils will have weekly Sparx homework that must be completed online.
- Maths will be set on a **Tuesday** and due the following **Tuesday 9am**.
- Science will be set on a **Thursday** and due the following **Thursday 9am**.
- Reader will be set on a **Wednesday** and due the following **Wednesday 9am**.
- If pupils do not complete the Sparx homework, they will receive a detention.

***Please encourage your child not to use AI to complete Sparx tasks.
This is easily detected!***

GCSE Options process 2025-2026

As your child progresses through Year 9, we will be excited to begin the process of choosing their GCSE subjects. Over the coming months, your child will have the opportunity to select the subjects they wish to study at GCSE. By the end of the Spring term, pupils will have selected 6 GCSE options subjects to carry forward into Year 10.

Key Dates

To ensure you and your child are fully supported throughout the options process, please make a note of the following important dates:

- **Year 9 Exams:** 26th – 30th January 2026
- **9.2 Report data:** 4th March 2026
- **Parents' Evening:** 5th March 2026– An opportunity to discuss progress and answer any questions you may have.
- **Options Evening:** 12th March 2026 – This evening will provide more detailed information about the subjects available.
- **Options Deadline:** 20th March 2024 – The final date for submitting GCSE subject choices.

