



West Hill Primary School

HOMEWORK POLICY



Let's shine together

Our vision is a school where everyone shines

What we do and encourage as a school family;

Achievement – excellence in teaching and learning which excites and inspires our children to be the best they can be.

Happiness – smiling, engaged and articulate children who are listened to, encouraged and given every support to maximise their own individual potential.

Friendship – children who are kind and caring towards each other, building lasting friendships.

Respect – a respect for people, each others' beliefs, our environment and all living things.

Responsibility – independent, creative thinkers who have the confidence to be responsible for themselves, their behaviour and for others.

Co-operation – working together, listening and valuing others' opinions within the school family and the wider community.

This policy was adopted by West Hill Primary School Governing Board on

6.2.17

Date of Review	Body responsible for review	Date of next review
July 2020	Headteacher	July 2022

STATEMENT OF SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

At West Hill Primary School, our school community has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are our pupils. This means that we have a Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy and Procedures in place which we refer to in our prospectus. All staff including our volunteers and supply staff must ensure that they are aware of our procedures. Parents and carers are welcome to read these on request.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will always ensure that our concerns about our pupils are discussed with their parents/carers first unless we have reason to believe that this is not in the child's best interests.



SCHOOL MEMBER

Rationale

At West Hill Primary School, children come to school to learn and it is expected that they should work hard and do their best during their time at school. We believe that school learning is a three way partnership between pupils, parents/carers and the school and that homework is an integral part of that partnership. Homework reinforces the children's learning as well as developing their independent learning skills which are so important in our ever-changing world. Well-organised homework can play a vital role in raising standards of achievement, whilst also striking a balance with learning that takes place outside the school setting, such as personal hobbies, clubs, social and family activities.

The purpose of Homework

1. To extend opportunities for learning outside the normal school environment.
2. To encourage learning skills and to develop the confidence, self discipline and responsibility of independent study in preparation not only for the next stage of education but also for their journey as lifelong learners.
3. To develop an appreciation that learning can be enjoyed.
4. To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding.
5. To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in promoting positive learning and positive attitudes to learning.
6. To assist in the development of children's reading skills and to develop in them a love of books.
7. To assist in the development of children's computing and their use of these in all curriculum areas.
8. To enhance children's skills of enquiry.
9. To make the most of all kinds of learning resources in the home environment.

Features of Homework

Certain features should always be present. Homework should:

1. have a clear purpose to the pupil;
2. be accessible to all those for whom it is set; it must include clear instructions;
3. when assessed, provide feedback regarding the performance;
4. encourage the pupil to work independently of school;
5. be achievable by the designated deadline.

Homework that is set for pupils may support and complement the pupil's class work, may be extension work or may be additional pupil development work. The amount of homework pupils receive reflects the stage they have reached in their schooling and in their personal and academic development. Homework may include an English or Maths task, a piece of research work related to one of their projects or a piece of cross-curricular or problem solving work. Where possible and appropriate, children may be asked to use computing in their homework tasks.

We believe that homework is a very valuable enhancement to the children's learning. We do not believe that the time each child spends on homework should be prescribed. We do not expect family life to be disrupted through homework. However, we do expect children to have **done their best** with each piece of homework. Therefore, we leave the time spent on homework to the parent/carer's discretion according to the content of the piece of work set.

A detailed chart of the expectations in terms of task and time allocations for each Year Group can be found overleaf, and is sent out with the weekly newsletter and curriculum letters at the beginning of each year. Our 'Home and School Books', or your child's homework activity books, are used to keep a record of each homework task and may be used to record any relevant comments such as praise for excellent work or a note of difficulties encountered, to enable parents and teachers to work together.

Children will be expected to learn addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts and will at the appropriate stage be given spellings to learn each week.

At West Hill Primary School, we pride ourselves on the high standards of reading achieved by our children, and on the children's genuine love of reading which we would wish to encourage at all times. We greatly value the time spent on developing their reading at home. Therefore, children are encouraged to take home books to read and in this way parents can help to develop their children's reading. We emphasize that parents should both read to and with their children and should discuss books with their children. Learning to read is not something to be rushed and should not become a race through our reading schemes. Reading for meaning is an essential skill for lifelong learning: the journey through books should be savored, not hurried.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with West Hill Primary School's Policies for:

Safeguarding Children and Child Protection
Children in Care
Assessment, Recording and Reporting
All Curriculum Policies
Behaviour Policy

	English	Maths	Other
Reception Mrs Powley/ Mrs Stevens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: sharing a book each evening with parents • 'Book of the Week' in the weekly Weekly 'This week we have..' letter with some suggested activities. • 'My Word Booklet' - Words to practice reading and spelling. • (Summer Term) Word & sentence writing books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly 'This week we have..' letters which include a 'You might like to.....' (maths based ideas for activities) 	Occasional activities to support topic work.
Class 1 Mr Sapwell	<p>Read to an adult every day at home. Talk about the story.</p> <p>Keywords: to read and spell (after Christmas), including letter formation/ handwriting</p>	Summer Term: Number activity given Friday, returned the following Friday.	Occasional activities to support topic work.
Class 2 Mr Joseph	<p>Reading to and discussion of their reading with an adult, every night.</p> <p>Writing activity linked to spellings/phonics.</p>	Activity sent home Wednesday to be returned Tuesday: worksheet linked to class learning; MyMaths (online) linked to class learning.	Occasionally work to finish or support a science, technology, geography or history activity
Class 3 Miss Kemp	Reading and discussing the text every night to an adult Spellings - given Friday, tested the following Thursday,	Learn number facts for 1 test (could be + - x ÷) : given Friday and tested Thursday. Mental Arithmetic book given Friday for the following Thursday.	Occasionally work to support a maths, science, geography or history topic
Class 4 Mr Pantling / Mrs Pedley	<p>Weekly spellings, differentiated, given Friday and tested the following Friday.</p> <p>Reading every night and discussing with adult</p>	Mental arithmetic book given Thursday for the following Tuesday Home practice of times tables online in preparation for June Multiplication Screening Check	Occasionally work to finish or support a maths, science, history or geography activity Home project linked environmental campaign, e.g Devon Wildlife Trust or Plastic-Free School
Class 5 Mrs Bedford/ Mrs Tovey	<p>Reading every night to include a good discussion at least once a week. All reading & discussions must be recorded in the Home & School Diary.</p> <p>Spellings, differentiated and personalized - set Thursday, tested following Thursday.</p> <p>Weekly: 40 min writing task to be edited with adult before handing in, set Monday, due in following Monday.</p>	Mathematics tasks - differentiated - set on Thursday, due in the following Tuesday. Include mental arithmetic book and learning of number facts for weekly timed tests (could be + - x ÷).	<p>Occasionally work to finish or support a science, history or geography activity.</p> <p>Topic projects to develop independent study skills and time management.</p>
Class 6 Mrs Harris/ Mrs Bennett	<p>Daily reading and reflection.</p> <p>Weekly Spelling activities.</p> <p>One written piece of English.</p>	Weekly Maths sheet or investigation to be completed at home.	Project in the summer term Research when appropriate for the topic.

Please read and sign your child's Home & School Diary every night , including at weekends, so that a record of all their reading, including at weekends, can be kept. In all classes, and sometimes in assemblies, children are encouraged to follow up school work at home.