West Street Primary will be an inclusive, caring and inspirational school providing every opportunity for children, staff and families at the heart of the community where everyone is valued and nurtured.

“Homework is an important extension of classroom learning. It helps to cement the ideas that children learn at school (or should be learning!), helping things sink in further and expanding their knowledge. The complexity and amount of homework that needs to be carried out obviously increases considerably as children progress through school. The amount of homework given to primary aged children varies, but they are likely to get some on a regular basis. Getting used to doing homework from an early age will definitely be an advantage, as children are more likely to continue doing so as they progress through their school years.” Early Childhood Education Website

West Street Primary School is committed to providing the best possible quality of education to all learners. To help achieve this commitment, our homework system is designed to ensure that parents and carers can support children’s learning at home.

Aim of this Policy: To raise standards by helping, parents and carers to support children’s learning at home more effectively.

**Roles and Responsibilities - Class Teachers**

The role of the teachers is to ensure that every child has homework set for them each week in line with the school policy.The homework must be linked to what children are learning and should be based on consolidating what they have done or investigating/information gathering about what they are going to learn. Homework must be personalised and should be an activity that the child can do at home independently but with adult support if it is available. Teachers must ensure that children understand the task.

**Roles and Responsibilities - Pupils and Parents**

Parents and pupils sign the Home School Agreement every year which includes an agreement to do homework set. Homework also forms part of our Reach for the Stars system. Pupils should make sure they remember to take their homework home and return it to school completed. Parents should support their child in completing their homework. Both pupils and parents should ask if they do not understand the task and report back how they found it. This can be done verbally or by writing a note on the sheet.

**What is homework?**

Homework is any activity the child is asked to complete at home. This includes reading which is absolutely crucial. All children should read at least 3 times per week and parents sign their reading record books. This does not have to be for a long period of time and can include parents reading WITH their children. Homework could also include playing a game, practising handwriting, number bonds, practising for a performance etc.

Minimum expectations

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Year Group | Homework | When |
| EYFS  (nursery & reception) | * Reading * Phonics * Letter formation * Number bonds | Homework in the EYFS is given when the individual child is ready for it. |
| 1 | * Reading * Spellings/key words/phonics * Maths | At least 3 times per week  1x per week  1x per week |
| 2 | * Reading * Spellings * Maths | At least 3 times per week  1x per week  1x per week |
| 3 | * Reading * Spellings * Maths | At least 3 times per week  1x per week  1x per week |
| 4 | * Reading * Spellings * Maths | At least 3 times per week  1x per week  1x per week |
| 5 | * Reading * Spellings * Maths | At least 3 times per week  1x per week  1x per week |
| 6 | * Reading * Spellings * Maths | At least 3 times per week  1x per week  1x per week |

Additional activities may be set that are topic based such as research. This is particularly the case at key stage 2 (Y3/4/5/6).

We would encourage ALL children to have a book bag which they can use to put reading books and homework in. These can be bought from the school office.

All children will be given a reading record book to record when they read at home and school. This should be in school every day.

School will provide all children in KS2 with a homework folder.

Taking care of their homework and belongings and completing their homework on time are good habits to form early.

**Absence**

If a child is absent from school long term teachers will set some work for them to complete at home.

During holiday periods it is helpful for progress that children continue to read regularly, practice number bonds and spellings. Staff will liaise with parents if they feel individual children would benefit from additional homework activities during the holiday.

**Helping your child.**

We are a very open school and encourage parents to talk regularly with your child’s class teacher who will offer advice and support for how you can help.

We also offer the following:

* Open days
* Parent meetings
* Parent information sessions
* Open access to their Reach for the Stars folders which contain their targets