



WEST WIMBLEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Title:	Homework Policy
Status:	Final
Version:	3.0
History:	Written September 2016
Owner	Senior Leadership Team

Policy statement

At West Wimbledon Primary School we believe that homework should be a positive experience. It should be a time of sharing, talking and discussion, and consolidate experiences and work completed at school. We believe that after the demands of a busy school day, homework should not be too onerous or impinge too much on family life so we set realistic and manageable homework expectations and tasks.

Aims and Objectives

- To ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and an individual responsibility
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure the parents/carers understand our expectation of them
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Provide opportunity to rehearse key skills such as; times tables, spellings, handwriting and reading
- To take advantage of the home environment and resources and the chance for some 1:1 time
- Extend and support learning
- Provides opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- Provides opportunities children and parents to share learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Prepare Year 6 children for the secondary phase of education

Homework at our school

- Whilst we are committed all of the above aims and objectives, West Wimbledon is not a school where homework dominates home and school life. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a burden, it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.
- Homework is always clearly explained and discussed in class before coming home. It may be a continuation of classwork or a task which consolidates an objective covered at school. It is our intention, and good practice, to send work home which the children are able to access; parents are not expected to teach new skills.
- Children are encouraged to hand their homework in on time and are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves.
- Discreet homework registers are kept and if a child consistency fails to complete and return tasks, this is discussed with the child and parents.

Reading

Reading is the most important home activity a parent can do with their child. Reading is a crucial skill which helps children to access and understand all areas of their learning at school and home. At West Wimbledon Primary School reading is a priority and we promote reading at home as the key way parents and carers are able to support their child. **We ask that all children read at home with an adult every day and record their session in their West Wimbledon red reading record.**

As a child grows in confidence and becomes a more independent reader, we encourage adults to continue to take an active interest and have close involvement with their child's reading.

Spellings in Key Stages 1 and 2

Children in Key Stages 1 and 2 are set weekly spellings to learn. The most effective way for children to learn and remember spellings is to work on them several times during the week rather than in one long session. A variety of techniques should be used to help your child learn their spellings, for example; writing them down in sentences, printing lists of words to display at home, 'look, cover, write, check'.

Expectations

The times are both a guide and an indication of how long a child should spend working on their homework. Children should be encouraged to discuss any problems they are having with their teacher. We do not want children to struggle excessively at home and parental support is of paramount importance.

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Details of Homework</u>	<u>Information</u>
<u>Nursery and Reception</u>	A 'Homelinks' information sheet is sent home weekly with details of activities covered at school and ideas for daily follow up work at home.	The activities are mainly practical and are designed to be completed with an adult's help.
<u>KS1</u>	Homework is set on a Wednesday and due in by the following Tuesday. All work is sent home in a plastic folder. Each week the children receive spelling/handwriting homework (Year 1 starting in January) and one piece of Maths, Literacy or topic work.	The homework is always linked to work covered in class and should take no longer than 20 minutes to complete with or without an adult's help.
<u>KS2</u>	<u>Year 3 - 5</u> Homework is set and due in each Monday and sent home in a purple plastic folder. Each week the children receive spelling homework and one piece of Maths or Literacy work. <u>Year 6</u> The children will be set 2 pieces of written work each week, one maths and one literacy in addition to the spelling work set.	The homework is often linked to work covered in class and should take no longer than 30 minutes to complete with or without an adult's help.
<u>Treetops</u>	A pack, comprising one Literacy and one Maths piece of work, is sent home each week.	The homework is linked to activities covered in class. Children are free to complete the work at their own pace throughout the week.

Extended homework ideas to use with your child at home

<u>EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES:</u>
www.mymaths.co.uk
educationcity.com
urbrainy.com
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/
www.singup.org
http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org
www.crickweb.co.uk
www.phonics.play.co.uk
<u>EDUCATIONAL VISITS</u>
There are SO many interesting places to visit right on our doorstep!
Here are some of our favourites:
London Science Museum – South Kensington
Natural History Museum – South Kensington
HM Tower of London – Tower Hill
Hampton Court Palace – Hampton Court
Imperial War Museum – Lambeth Road, London
Pollock’s Toy museum – Scala Street
The Museum of Childhood – Bethnal Green
ZSL London Zoo – Regent’s Park
Museum of London – Central London
The Look Out Discovery Centre – Bracknell Forest
<u>OTHER IDEAS</u>
Cooking with your child, with an emphasis on weighing
Visiting your local library
Nature walk in the countryside
Writing letters to family and friends
Keeping a diary/project book/scrap book during school holidays
Swimming
Encourage your child to count the money and work out the change during shopping trips

Review:

This policy is subject to annual review, as part of the school self-evaluation process. Its success in relation to the school’s attainment targets for assessment will be evaluated as part of the annual assessment audit. The policy will be revised in line with the new action plan targets set.