



Homework Policy

Written February 2016
To be reviewed February 2017

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.
Early Childhood Education.

Aims:

We believe that homework:

- supports children to make progress.
- encourages skills and attitudes which help children improve.
- helps parents gain an understanding of their child's schoolwork.
- promotes an effective working partnership between home and school.
- consolidates and reinforces learning done in school.

What is homework?

At West Cliff Primary School, we define homework as activities that learners complete outside of lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. Homework will support our children to consolidate and reinforce their classroom learning.

At West Cliff Primary School, homework is set on Wednesdays. Two homework clubs are available for children to complete this work during school time (Monday lunchtime and Tuesday after school)

Homework activities:

Homework activities are set at the stage children are working at in the classroom. West Cliff Primary School ensures that all tasks are set at the appropriate ability of the child, including those with special educational needs.

The online maths platform 'Sumdog' is used to facilitate homework at West Cliff Primary School. In addition to this, reading and spelling homework is also set. Sumdog is a popular platform and children at West Cliff enjoy using it. Children's homework efforts and achievements are rewarded through the issue of 'coins' on Sumdog.

- **Mathematics:** *Sumdog activities are set in relation to specific objectives from the week's learning. This work may also include times tables practise. The number of questions set for each activity may vary depending on the child's age and ability.*
- **Writing/Grammar/Reading:** *Sumdog is also used for writing, grammar and reading activities. In the same way for mathematics, the number of questions set for each activity may vary depending on the child's age and ability.*
- **Reading books:** *Children are encouraged to read on a regular basis. Children use a banded book scheme to support their reading progress. Children who have completed the banded scheme are considered 'free readers'. This allows children to access and read a range of texts from the school's extensive library.*
- **Spellings:** *All children at West Cliff Primary School receive a set of weekly spellings to learn. In key stage one, children are given spellings related to the phonics phase they are working*



within. In key stage two, spellings are given in line with the National Curriculum (2014) expectations.

In preparation for the end of the Key Stage Two SATs, additional homework activities may be set.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, homework activities are set to support the effective partnership between home and school. These activities may include phonics books, talk topics and opportunities to build on classroom tasks at home.

Communicating homework:

Home and school diaries are used across West Cliff to communicate homework. These diaries are used as a record of the homework set by the school. Parents also use the diaries to comment on children's progress in relation to the set tasks.

Reading records are also used as a means of communicating children's homework in this area.

The role of parents:

The staff at West Cliff Primary School aim to establish an effective working relationship to support children in completing their homework. It is expected that parents will support their children by:

- taking an interest in their children's homework.
- encouraging and praising children's efforts.
- supporting children where needed.
- keeping in touch with the class teacher.
- reminding children to complete their homework.

If parents have concerns about their child's homework, they are asked to discuss these issues with the class teacher.

Non completion of homework:

It is expected that all children will complete their homework. If a child has been unable to complete their work at home, parents are asked to communicate this information to the class teacher.

Children will be expected to complete any work that is not finished during Wednesday lunchtime.

Term time holiday homework:

West Cliff Primary School is committed to continual learning activities throughout the school term. With this in mind, the school will give children a 'holiday pack' to be completed during any absence from school as a result of a holiday, either authorised or unauthorised.

- Maths activity – a collection of questions related to children's 'McMaths' stage.
- Writing activity – writing a diary of the holiday.
- Reading activity – school book, information about the place being visited etc.

It is expected that these completed activities are brought to school when the child returns.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of the policy is the responsibility of the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and Governing Body. It will be reviewed one year from writing (September 2016)

Communicating this policy:

This policy will be made available on the school website to enable all school visitors, including parents, to view. Upon request, it can be made available in alternative formats.

