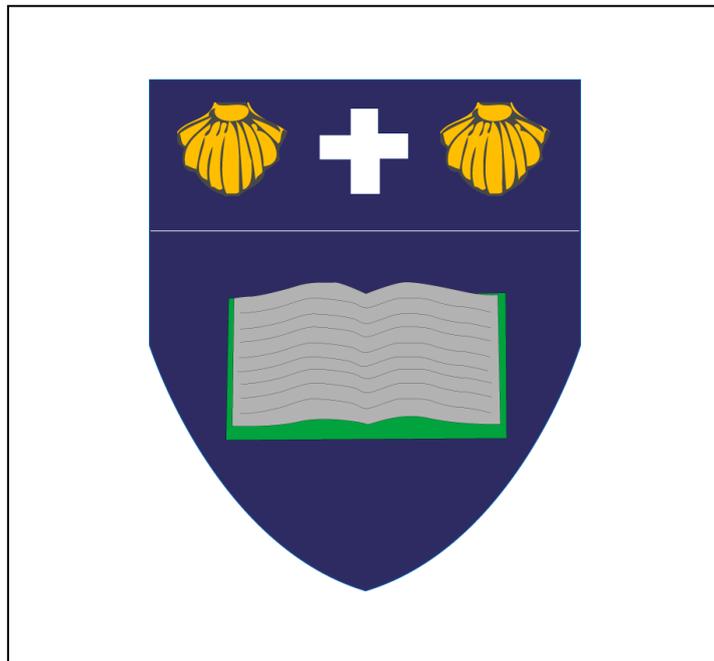


Westleigh Methodist Primary School Homework Policy



Date Written: June 2017

Review date: Summer 2019

Chairs signature:

Mission Statement

Westleigh Methodist Primary School aspires to be a Christian family where all can develop to their full potential.

We aim to promote the value of self, others and the environment

Our Vision:

The vision of Westleigh Methodist Primary School is to maintain a small, Christian school where the SLT and staff are knowledgeable about each child's abilities and challenges so that we can offer the most effective support for each individual child to meet those challenges, grow completely as a "well rounded" person and increase his/her skills to perform successfully in all academic areas

Or Mission:

Underpinning our Mission Statement, we seek to sustain a Christian, educational community where:

- ✓ An emphasis on academic excellence is complemented by our concern for each learner's personal growth and spiritual, intellectual, aesthetic, and psychological development.

The curriculum is developmentally responsive, actively engaging children in learning skills in a context; integrative – directing children to connect learning to daily lives; and exploratory – enabling children to discover their abilities, interests, learning styles, and ways that they can make contributions to society

Safeguarding Statement

At the Westleigh Methodist Primary School we recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children.

We work to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

The procedures contained in the Safeguarding Policy apply to all staff, volunteers and governors

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Statement of intent

Westleigh Methodist Primary School is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward thinking and safe learning environment in which children are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling primary school education.

At Westleigh, we believe that homework plays an important part in a child's education.

The benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that children have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to making homework well-balanced across the school.

This Homework Policy was developed in consultation with staff members, parents, pupils and with the full agreement of the governing body.

Aims

Westleigh Methodist Primary School's Homework Policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regard to homework.
- Ensure that parents have clarity on what their child is expected to do.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Support pupils' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning and to keep them informed about the work their child is covering.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experiences by extending it beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practice and deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.
- Provide further opportunities for pupils to work collaboratively.

1. Responsibilities

1.1. The role of the headteacher and governing body:

- Frequently check compliance of the policy.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the policy every year.
- Review the policy every year and make appropriate updates as required.
- Discuss with staff how far the Policy is being implemented.
- Meet with parents as appropriate.
- Support parents with information about homework.
- Inform new parents about the Homework Policy.

1.2. The role of the teacher:

- Plan and set up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Provide an explanation of homework tasks and ensure all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensure all homework given is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Set homework that is appropriate to the child's ability.
- Monitor homework regularly and make sure pupils are completing it.
- Mark homework and give feedback to pupils.
- Communicate with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Be available for discussion if necessary to parents and pupils about homework.
- Set homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensure homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Reward quality work and praise children who regularly complete homework.

1.3. The role of parents/carers:

- Support their child in completing homework.
- Become involved in their child's homework and encourage their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
- Make sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Provide suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Praise their child and celebrate achievements with regard to their homework.
- Inform teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operate with the school to find a solution.
- Keep the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and homework.

- Encourage your child to discuss homework with you, including feedback from teachers.

1.4. The role of pupils:

- Take responsibility for their own learning and submit completed work in a timely manner.
- Have a positive approach towards homework.
- Put the same effort into homework as would be expected of class work.
- Make sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seek clarification if required.
- Ensure that they have everything they need to complete homework and return to school all books/stationery needed to complete their homework.
- Take pride in the presentation and content of their homework and perform to a high personal standard.

2. Homework Tasks – Current practice

- 2.1. Teachers will explain the organisation of homework to parents at the parents' evening in September.
- 2.2. Every term, the school newsletter will inform parents about the main topics and units of work being covered.
- 2.3. All pupils will have homework books in which they complete their homework or be issued with a homework folder to keep their homework neat and organised.
- 2.4. Every pupil will receive weekly homework which is to be returned every Monday morning.
- 2.5. Homework will be peer marked every week and returned to the child in the homework folder/book.
- 2.6. Parents/carers are encouraged to discuss any errors with their child. If they have any queries, they should make an appointment to see their child's class teacher. Feedback from parents about their child's homework is also welcomed by the school.
- 2.7. At Wesley Methodist Primary School, pupils will be given a fortnightly mini project activity, linked to any area of the curriculum to be completed in homework books. Pupils will also receive weekly homework for maths and English.
- 2.8. The amount of homework will increase as the child progresses through school. Teachers may occasionally set extra homework for the whole class if they feel it would be beneficial.

2.9. The table below shows expected homework. Daily reading for enjoyment is strongly encouraged.

Class	Homework Tasks	Suggested minimum time spent	Total per week
Nursery	Talking Tasks (holiday homework)	20 mins	40 minutes
	Research Boxes (holiday homework)	20 mins	
Reception	Phonics based reading Tricky word practice Maths – Key skills	5 mins per night 5 mins 10 mins	50 minutes
Year 1	Phonics based reading Tricky word practice Maths - Key Skills	5 mins per night 10 mins 10 mins	55 minutes
Year 2	Phonics based reading/ My Book Blog reading	5 mins per night	1 hour 5 minutes
	Tricky word practice/ Spelling activity	10 mins	
	Maths – Key skills	10 mins	
	English – grammar activity	10 mins	
Year 3	My Book Blog reading	10 mins per night	1 hour 50 minutes
	Spelling activity	10 minutes	
	Maths – key skills	10 minutes	
	Maths – challenge	10 minutes	
	English – grammar activity	10 minutes	
Year 4	My Book Blog reading	10 mins per night	1 hour 55 minutes
	Spelling activity	10 minutes	
	Maths – key skills	15 minutes	
	Maths – fluency, reasoning and problem solving tasks	10 minutes	
	English – grammar activity	10 minutes	
Year 5	My Book Blog reading	10 mins per night	2 hours
	Spelling activity	10 minutes	
	Maths – key skills	15 minutes	
	Maths – fluency, reasoning and problem solving tasks	15 minutes	
	English – grammar activity	10 minutes	
Year 6	My Book Blog reading	15 mins per night	2 hours 5 minutes
	Spelling activity	10 minutes	
	Maths – key skills	15 minutes	
	Maths – fluency, reasoning and problem solving tasks	15 minutes	
	English – grammar activity	10 minutes	
<p>Children in years 1-6 will also be set a mini project once every fortnight that links with their creative curriculum theme.</p> <p>Children in Reception to Year 6 have access to IXL to practise their maths and English skills. Children may access this online at home. Those who don't have online access at home will be given opportunities in school time to access IXL.</p> <p>Children who are in year 2 and above who still access RWI Phonics sessions will have phonics based reading alongside My Book Blog reading.</p>			

3. Absences

- 3.1. If the child is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, the school will not supply work for these periods as pupils should be well enough to undertake work. In some cases, there may be exceptions to this rule and the school has the right to decide whether this is acceptable or not.
- 3.2. If the child is absent for a long period of time, e.g. with a broken arm, the teacher and the parent of the child will agree on what should be done and how much help should be given to the child.

4. Marking homework

- 4.1. Homework may be marked in a variety of ways. If marked by the teacher the work will be ticked to show that it has been marked and a comment will be left in the homework book. Parents also have the opportunity to leave a comment about their child's homework. Pupils will be encouraged to collaborate when returning homework and take part in peer marking. Occasionally, the work may be marked orally with the child or class.

5. Pupils who fail to complete homework

- 5.1. All pupils are expected to complete homework on time. Teachers will keep records of pupils completing homework which will be regularly checked. If pupils fail to complete homework, teachers will contact parents to find out why. Where pupils haven't completed homework on time they will be given the opportunity to complete it during collaborative marking time.

6. Pupils with SEND

- 6.1. The school recognises that pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may require that specific tasks be set in line with their learning needs. While pupils with SEND may benefit from special tasks separate from the homework received from other pupils, it is important that they also do as much in common with other pupils.
- 6.2. A balanced amount of the right type of homework will be set for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the parents and SEND co-ordinator.

7. Equal Opportunities

- 7.1. At Westleigh Methodist Primary School, governors and staff members are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background. All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

8. Policy review

- 8.1. This policy is reviewed every year by the headteacher.
- 8.2. The scheduled review date for this policy is July 2018.