



WEST LINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



HOME LEARNING POLICY

Be at the heart
of your child's learning.





Rationale

"Homework is considered to be tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons"

(Education Endowment Foundation, 2017)

Education Scotland's 'Review of the impact of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006' highlights the findings from the Education Endowment Foundation (2017) and highlights that 'Schools whose pupils do homework tend to be more successful'.

We recognise that Home Learning is everything a child learns or experiences at home, however for the purpose of this policy, when we mention home learning or homework, we are referring only to the teacher planned learning that pupils are expected to complete at home.

Providing homework for pupils is common practice in primary schools in Scotland and research has suggested it has a positive impact on learners when activities are short focused interventions that relate directly to what is being taught and that are built on in settings/schools. At West Linton Primary school, we plan home learning that:

- Is relevant and appropriately challenging
- Offers recap and repetition of learning completed in class
- Encourages young people to work independently or with an adult at home
- Creates opportunities for home/ school partnership.

At West Linton Primary School, our planned Home Learning is relevant to pupil needs and interests, but also allows time for the learning to be completed with a family member or parent at a time that suits. The class teacher will share home Learning each week using technology and traditional methods e.g. Showbie accessed on pupil iPads and/ or jotter working.

Aims

At West Linton Primary School, our Vision is *Learning together to achieve our best* through the values of *Honesty, Respect and Kindness*.

Our aims are:

- To ensure all pupils receive a high quality inclusive education in order to become confident individuals, effective contributors, responsible citizens and successful learners.
- To work in collaboration with our community and stakeholders to promote quality opportunities for our young people.
- To build and develop resilient pupils equipped to tackle problems in their life and learning with a growth mind set.
- To ensure all pupils are Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Responsible and Respected.



The aims of our Home Learning Policy align with our Vision, Values and Aims in both our commitment to working together with parents to support our young people to be independent in their learning and providing our young people with high quality learning wherever this is completed. The approach also supports self-study techniques and preparation for further and more sophisticated learning as young people move through the school and beyond.

Partnership

Parents and carers have a significant role in fostering and supporting positive attitudes towards Home Learning. It is very important to us that we encourage young people to always complete learning that is 'their best', in line with our school vision. As a result, we ask you to encourage your child to complete their home learning to a high level and in time for the submission dates shared.

We believe that learning is a partnership and therefore information about what children are learning about in school is shared at regular intervals throughout the school year through Curriculum Overviews. Our weekly home learning gives a flavour of what the children are learning in class and gives crucial opportunities for the children to practice their learning and ensure that it is retained in their long-term memory, therefore it is very important that the planned work is completed.

Planning & Delivery

Appropriate home learning will be planned by a child's class teacher and will be shared weekly with pupils. Home learning should be an opportunity for your child to engage with learning with you at home, however the activities should take no longer than half an hour per activity. If your child has a variety of home learning activities to complete then we would suggest that they spread the learning across the week.

Spelling

On a Monday Primary 2-7 classes will receive spelling homework, based on their 'check in assessment'. The check in assessment will identify which words young people will learn and engage in activity with over the course of that week. Throughout the week, the class teacher will plan learning using these words as a focus. At home, we ask for your child to practice how to spell the words on their word list. The home learning should be handed in on a Friday when young people will then have a 'check up' assessment and the progress across the week will be tracked.

Primary 1 pupils will be given phonics recap and repetition to do at home which supports their spelling and reading as they progress through the school year.

Reading

Throughout the week young people will be given the opportunity in class to read for enjoyment. We ask that you enjoy reading with your child and to your child at home, no matter how old they are. The evidence



related to reading for enjoyment leading to better reading fluency, vocabulary and engagement in learning is clear and well documented.

Young people will also be given home learning related to the reading they are completing in class. This can range from reading aloud to carrying out an analysis, evaluation or comprehension task related to their class reading.

This reading home learning will be given on a Monday, to be discussed throughout the week during reading lessons and to be completed in time for Friday.

Mathematics

In maths, young people attain best when they understand the concepts, principles and processes related to number. These core skills support young people apply this learning into more abstract mathematical concepts and develop ability to draw conclusions, solve problems and make reasoned evaluations.

As a result of this, our maths home learning will focus on the basic number concepts to support progress in mathematics. Your child may be asked to complete practice of number bonds, timetables, time and calculations related to money or measure. At some points in their learning young people may be asked to complete a worksheet at home, but this will always be to revise concepts taught in class. Whilst the mathematics home learning is 'practice based' rather than traditional written homework, the learning is still very important to support progress in this area. Learning times tables, for example is crucial in the children's development of learning in fractions, decimals, percentages and analysing data.

Home Learning and Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum for Excellence aims to enable all young people to develop the four key capacities: Successful Learners, Responsible Citizens, Effective Contributors and Confident Individuals.



The Home Learning planned by West Linton Primary School aspires to support the aims of Curriculum for Excellence by helping young people to:

- learn, grow and develop their independence and enjoyment of learning,
- be confident in their own ability through application of the learning powers and to support self check skills,
- become responsible of their learning at home
- to contribute to their own learning through focused recap and repetition, enhancing and leading to personal progress.