

**Welcome
To
West Meadows**



**School Prospectus
2005 / 2006**

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

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SECTION ONE

WEST MEADOWS SCHOOL

WEST MEADOWS IS A CO-EDUCATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Address	West Meadows Primary School West Street Hoyland S74 9ET
Telephone	(01226) 749164
Age Range	Foundation Stage 3 - 5 years Key Stage 1 5 - 7 years Key Stage 2 7 - 11 years
Chair of Governors	Mrs J. Hawkins
Vice Chair	Mr L. Whitney
Headteacher	Mrs E.M. Cross
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs M. Marsh
Education Authority	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Contact	Mrs. E. Sutton Chief Education Officer
Address	Education Office Berneslai Close Barnsley S70 2HS
Telephone	(01226) 773500

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Education Committee

West Meadows Primary School

Headteacher - Mrs. E. M. Cross
West Street, Hoyland, Barnsley S74 9ET
Telephone - (01226) 749164

Dear Parent / Carer,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our children and their families. We hope that this prospectus will prove both interesting and informative and will provide you with an overall picture of our school.

West Meadows Primary School is a very happy, caring school with experienced and hardworking staff. Our children are encouraged to develop their full potential academically, physically, socially and spiritually.

We believe that every child is unique, that childhood is precious, and as teachers our job is to cultivate excitement, happiness and wonder. We work hard to ensure that all children feel good about themselves and acquire a positive self-image.

The relationship between home and school is one of partnership and the cooperation and support between both is essential to your child's development at school.

Our Home School Agreement clearly sets out our joint responsibilities to provide the best possible education for your child.

The prospectus outlines the facilities and organisation of our school. However the best way to find out about us is to visit the school, meet the Headteacher and staff and ask questions. We aim to offer a first class education in a friendly, caring and challenging environment, an education that will raise standards of achievement and promote good behaviour.

Come and see for yourselves

Yours sincerely,

E.M. Cross
Headteacher

WEST MEADOWS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of West Meadows is to create an open school where everyone feels they can become part of a partnership, which is working towards providing the best possible education for all our children.

We will accomplish this by:

- Giving all members of the school community opportunities to fulfil their unique potential.
- Create a happy and secure environment where everyone is valued and can grow in confidence.
- Developing children's personal qualities and encouraging positive attitudes, and values.
- Providing a carefully planned and well-resourced environment that reflects the needs and interests of all children.
- Ensuring quality through the continual review and improvement of the service we provide.

Our resolve is to consistently provide the best and set standards and values for our children to follow when they take their place in the world.

WEST MEADOWS

SCHOOL AIMS

Our School aims to:

- Provide a stimulating, happy and secure environment.
- Develop self-confidence and encourage independent learning.
- Promote high standards, effort and achievement.
- Promote the cultural, moral and spiritual understanding of our children.
- Fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum.
- Provide quality education in order for all our children to develop their full potential.
- Encourage self-discipline, positive behaviour and respect for others.
- Provide an education, which will develop the whole child.
- Value parents as the child's first educators; make them feel welcome and informed.

WEST MEADOWS

VALUES STATEMENT

In order to prepare our children to take their place in the world and develop into responsible citizens, we underpin both the taught and hidden curriculum, with the following values:

- Honesty
- Loyalty
- Truthfulness
- Fairness
- Contentment
- Freedom



- Respect
- Equality
- Trust
- Consideration
- Forgiveness
- Generosity

All our staff lead by example and use these values to help them fulfil the school aims and translate our mission statement into reality.




We believe that the future of our children is in our hands. At West Meadows we aim high and strive to help our children achieve their hopes, dreams and wishes. We believe that all children are unique and have the right to live a happy life in a better world.

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SECTION TWO

STAFFING AND SCHOOL ORGANISATION

Headteacher	Mrs Cross		
Deputy Head	Mrs Marsh		
Foundation 1	Mrs Stephenson Miss Beever	Administration	Mrs Shepherd Miss Johnson Mrs Toulson
			
Foundation 2	Mrs Glover Mrs Whitehead Mrs Bone	Dinner Ladies	Mrs Toulson Mrs Grange Mrs Howarth Mrs Geraghty Mrs O'Mara
Year 1/2	Miss Jobling Mrs Orman Mrs Platts Mrs Hawley		
		Kitchen Staff	Mrs Coleman-Street Miss Bailey Mrs Sharman
Year 2/3	Mrs Tuck Mrs Robinson		
Year 4	Mrs Pearce Mrs Hepworth	Crossing Ladies	Mrs O'Mara Mrs Bagnall
			
Year 5	Miss Harvey Mrs Beever	Caretaker	Mr Willis
		Cleaners	Mrs Willis Mrs Sharman
Year 6	Mrs Marsh Mrs O'Loughlin		Mrs Bagnall Mrs O'Mara

PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION

Parents have the right to apply for a place at any school in Barnsley or the surrounding district, regardless of their address. To enable us to plan effectively for a child's education it would be helpful if parents of pre - school children who would like a place at our school could register their child's name with us as early as possible. It is also necessary to formally apply to the school using the L.E.A. application forms that can be found in the back of the Authorities Admissions Handbook, available from school. These forms must be returned to the chosen school by the given closing date (either March or April) of the year prior to entry if the number of applications for places at the school exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria are used to allocate places:

- 1) Children with brothers or sisters in the school at the time of their admission - these children gain automatic admission.
- 2) The distance of the child's normal place of residence from the school (measured in a straight line on the map) - closest addresses gain places until the standard number is reached.

When the standard number has been reached, applications may be refused, although it should be stressed that in such cases parents do have the right to appeal via the Education Committee to an Independent Appeals Tribunal. In the absence of an appeal, parents will be expected to approach an alternative school with an admissions request.

All decisions regarding the admissions of children to the school rests with the Local Education Authority.

Please feel free to pop in and visit us at any time, you can look around school and meet the staff and children.

OUR FOUNDATION UNIT

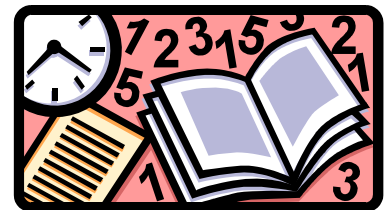
Our Foundation Unit caters for nursery and reception children and is staffed accordingly. We cater for 26 part time nursery children and the nursery is open for two 2 ½ hour sessions daily.

The foundation staff will visit children at home when places have been allocated and the transition process will be explained prior to starting.

There is provision for 30 full time reception children in the unit and they start their full time education in the term that they reach their 5th birthday.

Children move into mainstream school into our year 1 Class in the term that they reach their 6th birthday. In order to ensure that this transfer is as smooth as possible the children will have a number of opportunities to not only visit their new classroom but also a chance to spend time with their new teacher.

If you would like to visit the Foundation Stage or require more information would you please ask the school secretary who will be more than pleased to assist you.



SCHOOL SESSION TIMES

	Foundation Stage	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Morning Session	9.00am-11.30am	8.55am-12.15	8.55am-12.30pm
Afternoon Session	12.30pm-3.00pm	1.15pm - 3.05pm	1.15pm-3.05pm

If you have any concerns about your child's welfare do not hesitate to pop in and discuss it with your child's class teacher, the end of the school day will cause less disruption. The Headteacher is always available although a phone call to make an appointment will ensure that she is not otherwise occupied.

ARRIVING AND LEAVING SCHOOL

BEGINNING OF THE DAY - Please do not arrive at school before 8.45am and then wait on the playground with your child until the whistle blows.

LATE ARRIVALS MUST REPORT TO THE OFFICE TO ENSURE THAT REGISTERS AND DINNER NUMBERS ARE ACCURATE.

END OF THE DAY - Please wait on the playground for your child not in front of the classroom windows. If you are delayed when picking up your child please ring and let us know. If for any reason you want your child to leave school early, please inform the class teacher.

Parents are asked not to bring cars into the school grounds or park on the drive, as this not only creates unnecessary congestion, it is also a major safety hazard.

THE GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body meets at least once a term, and is responsible for decisions about the general running of the school, the curriculum, financing, appointments of staff, maintenance of the buildings and school policies on such matters as discipline, charging for school outings etc.

The Governors produce a school profile each year. Parents of all pupils receive a copy of the profile. The Governing Body consists of: -

Chairperson	Mrs J. Hawkins
L.E.A. Representatives	Mr L. Whitney Vacancy
Parent Representatives	Mrs K. Stott Mr J. McKnight Mrs Sullivan
Teacher Representative	Mrs. M. Marsh
Staff Representative	Mrs. S. Shepherd
Community Representatives	Mrs. J. Orman Mrs A. Webb Vacancy
Headteacher	Mrs. E. M. Cross

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ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is absent from school it is essential that we receive a note or telephone call on the first day. If no note or telephone call is received this will be recorded as unauthorised absence and will go on your child's record. This may lead to a visit from the Education Welfare Officer who follows up unauthorised absence. If your child has to leave school during the day for a medical appointment or any other reason, please inform us beforehand by phone, note or personally. **He or she must be collected from school by a parent or a known adult.**

ABSENCE RETURNS

Our current target for attendance set by the DFES is 94.7%
During the school year 2004/2005 the percentage attendance was 92.9%

Authorised Absence	6.4%
Unauthorised Absence	0.7%
Compulsory School Age Children	165

HEALTH MATTERS

ILLNESS

If your child is not well enough to come to school please let us know. If you do not contact school we will phone you regarding the nature of your child's absence.

MEDICATION THROUGH THE DAY

The LEA now has a strict policy for administering medicines. Forms must be filled in and signed by parents in order to give staff permission to administer the medication. These forms and a log will be kept in school. Please call at the school office to complete these.

SCHOOL MEDICALS

All children have a general medical examination during their time in Key Stage 1. The speech therapist also works in school.

The school can request hearing tests for children who seem to be having difficulty with their hearing. If you have any worries concerning these matters, please mention them to the teacher.

MEDICAL PROBLEMS

If your child develops any medical problems e.g. Asthma, deafness, please ensure that you keep staff informed. We ensure that all children regardless of medical problems are given equal opportunity to access the curriculum.

SCHOOL HEALTH

School is in constant contact with the School's Medical Service and statutory checks are held in school. Parents are always well informed of these occasions.

The Principal School Medical Officer has provided the following list, as a guide to the time children should be away from school if they have an infectious illness.

Chickenpox	Six days from onset of rash
German Measles	Four days from onset of rash
Measles	Seven days from onset of rash
Whooping Cough	21 days from onset of paroxysmal coughing
Infective Jaundice	Should be excluded from school for not less than seven days following the appearance of jaundice, or until clinical recovery
Tonsillitis	Until clinical recovery

Recommended periods of exclusion for children with contagious diseases

Impetigo	Until skin has healed
Lice	Until treatment received
Verrucae	Exclusion unnecessary
Ringworm of Feet and Athlete's Foot	Exclusion from barefoot activities unnecessary but treatment always advisable
Scabies	Until adequate treatment instituted
Threadworm	Exclusion unnecessary. Treatment advisable

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CHILDREN TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE HAD VOMITING AND/OR DIARRHOEA UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN CLEAR FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS.

EMERGENCIES/ACCIDENTS

When children are admitted to school, parents are asked to complete an information sheet, which includes a telephone number for urgent contact. Parents are asked to keep this information up to date.

If a child is unwell and uncomfortable, parents will be asked to collect them from school. In the case of an accident requiring hospital attention, parents are asked to accompany someone from school in case permission is needed for treatment.

FIRST AID

Miss Faye Harvey is trained in first aid.

All ancillary staff are trained in emergency first aid.

SCHOOL MEALS

Lunch is eaten in the school hall. Children enjoy a cafeteria system with a choice of a traditional hot meal, a jacket potato or a grab a bag. Currently meals cost £1.50 ($5 \times £1.50 = £7.50$) and this is paid into the IMPACT machine with your child's pin number, which you will receive when your child starts school.



If, as a family you are in receipt of Income Support or Working Families Tax Credit, you will probably be entitled to free meals for your children. To claim these, please call at the school office.

If you wish, your child may bring a packed lunch, which will be eaten, under supervision in the dining room. They may also bring a drink in a can or a plastic flask to have with their lunch.

Glass bottles are not allowed. Drinks apply to packed lunches only as children on school meals are provided with a drink.

No child who has school meals or a packed lunch may leave the school premises during the lunch break.

SWEETS

Due to our poor school dental record we do not allow the children to bring sweets/crisps etc. to school other than for medical reasons e.g. Diabetes a letter is then required. Our school is registered with the NHS 5 a Day Fruit and vegetable scheme.

SCHOOL MILK



You will be sent a milk letter towards the end of each term, if your child wishes to have milk in the following term please fill this in and send it back to school with payment by the date stated in the letter. If your child is receiving free school meals they will be entitled to free school milk.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

OUR OFFICIAL SCHOOL COLOURS ARE: -

Grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress.

White or red polo shirt

White shirt or blouse

Red sweatshirts, cardigans or jumper.



Uniform can be ordered from school, order forms and prices are available from the school office.

Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly named, especially coats and jumpers, which often get mixed up.

Polo, short-sleeved shirts or tee shirts are by far the easiest items of clothing for young children to wear. Please encourage your child to become independent by providing him/her with clothes and shoes, which are easy to fasten and unfasten.

We hope very much to have the support of all our families.

P.E. DRESS

Indoors - Shorts and tee shirt.

Outdoors - Shorts, tee shirt and trainers or sensible shoes.

All items should be clearly marked and washed regularly.

Indoor P.E. is done barefoot.



No jewellery may be worn during P.E./ games lessons because of the possible danger. This is a Barnsley L.E.A. policy.

JEWELLERY / VALUABLES

The wearing of jewellery (necklaces, bracelets and rings) is discouraged largely on the grounds of safety. We cannot accept responsibility for the loss or damage of any valuables (including money). Items of value should be left at home.

SCHOOL SECURITY

All doors will only open from the inside and children arriving late will only be able to gain access through the main door.

All visitors to school must use the main entrance and sign the sign the visitor's book.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

We value the part that parents play in the education of their children. We seek to work in close partnership with parents to enhance and enrich the education of all our children. These are some of the ways in which we encourage parents to share with us the school life of their children: -

- We welcome all parents into school to work with all of our children.

If you want to get involved all you have to do is call in and see us

The types of things you can do are many and varied. For example, reading to and with the children, playing games, sewing, cooking, model making and supporting curriculum delivery generally.



- From time to time, you will be invited to watch the children present their work in assemblies.
- We sometimes need parental help when we take children out of school on educational visits.
- The children are often involved in charity fundraising events. We need your help not only by giving donations but also by giving your time to help with the organisation.
- We are continually trying to improve our school environment internally and externally. If you have any skills in decorating, woodwork, brickwork etc. we would appreciate any help you can give.

CHILD PROTECTION

Following recent legislation, no adult is allowed to work, unsupervised, with children unless they are C.R.B. checked. The school works actively to provide a systematic means of monitoring pupils thought to be at risk. This is achieved by continually operating within the policy and procedures set down by the L.E.A., the area Child Protection Committees and the Social Services Agency. Mrs. Cross is the named Child Protection Officer. The relevant staff attend courses as appropriate. Parents should be aware that if a child makes a disclosure about any form of abuse, the school is required to inform Social Services but parents will be consulted first.

OPEN EVENINGS

We have two open evenings during the year. Parents are invited to come in and talk about their child's progress against targets set with the class teacher. However, you are more than welcome to make an appointment to see your child's teacher at any time throughout the school year. In addition, we also provide an annual written report about your child's progress. Regular newsletters are sent home to keep you fully up to date with current news and forthcoming events.

SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

We hold a number of events each term to raise much needed money to benefit the children in school. Help and support from parents is essential. Events in the past have included discos, jumble sales and of course Summer and Christmas fairs.

If you think you would like to help, please contact us at school and join our Parents and Friends Group, we always welcome new members.

We rely very much on the goodwill and support offered by many parents and friends. For further details please get in touch.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES

	First day of closure	School Re-opens
Summer Holidays 2005	22.07.05	07.09.05
Autumn Half Term 2005	24.10.05	31.10.05
Christmas 2005	22.12.05	03.01.06
Spring Half Term 2006	13.02.06	20.02.06
Easter 2006	03.04.06	18.04.06
May Day 2006	01.05.06	02.05.06
Spring Bank Half Term 2006	29.05.06	05.06.06
Summer Holidays 2006	21.07.06	04.09.06



TOTAL TERM TIME DAYS = 195 LESS 5 DAYS FOR INSET

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SECTION FOUR

THE CURRICULUM

We aim to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, which is differentiated and caters for the individual needs of all our children. All children participate equally in every school activity and strategies are used to combat all forms of inequality so that pupils can reach their full potential.

The Foundation Stage curriculum underpins all future learning at Key Stage 1 and 2. Education at West Meadows begins in Foundation Stage and because we value parents as a child's first educator we like to visit you at home so that you can share your knowledge of your child with us. The provision, planning and practice in Foundation Stage is constantly monitored evaluated and reviewed.

In both Key Stage 1 and 2 we teach a large part of our curriculum through a subject base, which can last several weeks. Some subjects are taught in shorter blocks, for example History and Geography. Literacy and Maths are continuous and taught daily. A variety of teaching styles are used including class teaching, grouped, paired and individual work. Our learning and teaching is interactive and takes place within a supportive and positive environment.

LITERACY

There is a structured session of Literacy teaching every day, for every pupil, organised as follows:

- Shared reading and writing when the whole class reads or learns to write together. Pupils are taught in detail about different types of books and writing such as stories, poems, instructions and factual information.
- Pupil group activities when children work in groups or on their own given task, whilst the teacher focuses on direct teaching with one or two groups in rotation.
- The final ten minutes of the lesson (plenary) when pupils and teacher discuss and check what has been taught and learned and to assess what progress has been made.

Sentence/word work when the whole class work together to learn about letter sounds, spelling, grammar, punctuation etc. and handwriting is taught separately through a structured programme called Jolly Phonics and Jolly Grammar.

Language forms the basis for dealing with all subjects and the language of maths, science, technology and art etc. are taught across the range of other subjects, via

projects, topic work and library research skills. Our teaching is interactive and well paced with a focus on developing speaking and listening skills.

There are regular tests and assessments to track pupil progress and inform future planning.

Homework is an integral part of our Literacy teaching and increases the opportunity to be successful.

MATHEMATICS

Our approach to Mathematics is highly structured. There is a 45-minute class taught lesson for all pupils.

- The first 10/15 minutes is devoted to whole class teaching of aspects of mental mathematics, tables and number work,
- The second part is group and individual work on a focussed task.
- The final part of 5/10 minutes (plenary) is the time for praise and assessment of progress made.

There are regular tests and assessments to track progress and inform future planning. Homework is an integral part of Mathematics and increases the opportunity to be successful.



SCIENCE

Science is taught through active involvement in practical work. We develop children's understanding and skills as they progress through school. They are involved in investigating in order to find out about the variety of life, materials and physical processes. We encourage a questioning approach to the world they live in.

HUMANITIES

In Geography the children develop an understanding of places, people, environments and the physical nature of the world.

In History we use an investigative approach using a variety of source materials: in this way children learn to interpret evidence and develop knowledge and understanding of the past.

THE ARTS

The Arts play an important part in school life. Our Arts curriculum not only focuses on the teaching of skills but also on individual children responding to experiences and representing them in uniquely different ways. We aim to enable children to use their senses to interpret their world.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Information Technology is about using computers in many different ways. We use computers throughout school to help children develop and use computer skills in all areas of the curriculum.

Children have access to the Internet and e-mailing system. We are working in close partnership with Kirk Balk School in order to enhance the I.C.T. provision for our children. A member of Kirk Balk staff currently works with key Stage 2 children for one afternoon each week and holds a lunchtime computer club.

The children have access to a computer suite, which is timetabled and available to all classes. There are also two computers in each classroom for daily use.

All classrooms are resourced with an interactive whiteboard to enhance and support learning and teaching.



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

We aim to teach design technology by giving children the opportunity to communicate their ideas through a range of activities. The children are shown how to handle a variety of tools safely and correctly, and are shown the necessary skills and techniques to enable them to complete the task. They are also taught to test and evaluate their work and be able to discuss their findings with other children and adults.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. provides the opportunity for physical enjoyment and achievement. All children are encouraged to develop their physical skills at their own pace with a degree of confidence.

Lessons involving the use of small apparatus (bats, balls, skipping ropes etc.) develop the children's fine motor skills, such as throwing, catching, hand - eye coordination etc. Movement and drama are also incorporated into P.E. sessions and is planned by the teacher as part of a theme or topic from other aspects of the curriculum.

During the Summer Term our Year 4 children follow a programme of swimming instruction at Hoyland Swimming Baths.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The Department of Education and Science requires that there should be a daily collective act of worship in all schools. The nature of collective worship must be of a broadly Christian character, but should not be distinctive of any particular denomination. The topics should relate, not only to spiritual, but also to social, moral, cultural and environmental issues, and to the daily life of both the school and the pupils. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship and religious education, by arrangement with the Headteacher.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are a non-denominational school. R.E. follows the guidelines laid down by the L.E.A. Agreed Syllabus and is concerned mainly with the moral and spiritual aspects of life as it affects young children. The children are encouraged to appreciate and respect the world around them, understand the needs and beliefs of others and develop an awareness of and concern for others, through example, stories and discussion.

R.E. is usually taught by aspects of the current theme or related to festivals and events that have a direct bearing on the children's lives, such as Christmas. An awareness and understanding of other cultures is considered important, to develop in

our children a tolerant approach to all religions and ways of life. Class work is reinforced in assemblies, some of which are taken by the children themselves, and in the attitudes encouraged by all staff

DISCIPLINE: MANAGING PUPIL BEHAVIOUR

Discipline is the responsibility of all members of the school community.

Children are taught to understand the reasons for rules and conventions. The emphasis is placed upon helping children to develop self-discipline and on praise and rewards for acceptable behaviour. However, some children need to be helped to behave in acceptable ways. We encourage children to reflect upon their actions, the consequences these actions have on others and to think about alternative ways to behave. We have developed a range of sanctions that are used to help the children learn to behave in appropriate ways.

However, the most important people are still the parents, whose role in encouraging good behaviour is vital if the teachers are to be able to teach effectively.

We request that all parents when on school premises help us to maintain our high standards.

In cases of persistent poor behaviour, parents will be informed by letter or phone call and requested to come into school to discuss the problem with either the class teacher or Headteacher so that a successful solution can be found. This is in line with our policy in keeping parents fully informed on their child's progress and development.

If there is no improvement despite everyone's efforts then further sanctions will be put in place.

There is little doubt that if we all work together in partnership many problems can be sorted out very easily.

In extreme cases the Headteacher has the power to exclude a child from school. The period of exclusion depends upon the seriousness of the offence. In all cases the L.E.A.'s standard procedures are followed and ratified by the Governing Body.

In order to encourage the development of a positive self-image and general all round success, we operate a whole school reward system. The children receive commendations, certificates and stickers, not only for displaying positive attitudes, behaviour and values but also for academic achievement.

It is expected that all parents support the school's behaviour policy.

PUPIL SCHOOL COUNCIL

We run a successful school council. The council consists of two democratically elected members from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who meet every three weeks to discuss issues raised by their fellow class members. The children have their own notice board and distribute minutes of meetings to parents and children.

ASSESSING CHILDREN'S PROGRESS

The children's learning is carefully planned and monitored throughout school. When children start school we complete a base-line profile of each child during their first term, so that we can establish their strengths and weaknesses and plan learning programmes accordingly. Assessment continues right through their school life, and culminates towards the end of Year 6 with a full teacher assessment and a series of Standard Assessment Tasks (SATs). These tasks and tests are used nationally to assess 11 year olds. You will be given a written record of your child's achievements and you will also have the opportunity to discuss these with your child's teacher.

SEX EDUCATION

In Key Stage 1 and 2 children ask questions which arise naturally during the course of various activities and topics, such as family life, caring for animals, health education etc. and these questions are answered in a way which will promote positive attitudes for later life, within the moral framework of loving relationships, family life and respect for others.

In Year 6 children are offered sex education lessons, which are run by the school nurse and the class teacher. Parents are invited to watch the video used and discuss the content of the programme and may withdraw their child from these sessions if preferred.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an integral part of teaching/learning activities at school. It involves parents as significant persons in a child's learning and extends our pupil's opportunities to practise newly learned skills and competencies.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

West Meadows welcomes all children with special educational needs - physical as well as educational. They will be integrated as far as possible and consistent with their needs. We have ramp access for wheelchairs into all parts of school and a disabled toilet facility. Mrs. J. Glover is our Special Needs Coordinator and Mrs A. Webb is our named Governor with responsibility for special needs.

Any child giving cause for concern is monitored closely and parents are contacted. When necessary, other professionals are consulted for further support (Educational Psychologist, Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist etc.) Regular monitoring meetings are held to closely supervise the progress of the children.

Our S.E.N. policy is complete and available in school.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

In order for the school to provide a broad and balanced curriculum we feel that it is essential for the children to go on educational visits. These provide first hand experience and enhance the thematic work planned each term. First hand experience is very important. We also invite speakers into school to talk to the children as part of their educational programme. Parents will be notified well in advance in writing when proposed visits are planned. The majority of visits take place during school hours and therefore voluntary contributions (to cover the cost of transport, entrance fees and insurance) will be requested when there is a charge involved

TRANSFER FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY EDUCATION

At the end of Year 6 all children transfer from West Meadows to begin their secondary education and all parents have equal opportunities to apply for a place at any school regardless of home address.

Information packs from the L.E.A. for parents of Year 6 children are usually sent home around the end of October giving full details of how to apply for a place at the school of your choice. Our local secondary school is Kirk Balk.

RESULTS FOR NATIONAL CURRICULUM TESTING FOR 11-YEAR OLDS

Year	Subject	Targets	Results
2000/1	English	56%	64%
	Maths	60%	56%
	Science	68%	68%
2001/2	English	55%	39%
	Maths	68%	36%
	Science	71%	64%
2002/3	English	61%	59%
	Maths	58%	55%
	Science	69%	76%
2003/4	English	55%	46%
	Maths	55%	42%
	Science	65%	82%
2004/5	English	54%	54%
	Maths	54%	58%
	Science	68%	72%