

Top of the Class

The following schools have been identified as some of the highest attaining primary schools in Yorkshire in 2016. All the following schools performed over the county average percentage of pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.

Source: Department for Education

St Philip's Catholic Primary and Nursery School



We are delighted to be named as one of this year's highest attaining schools in West Yorkshire. Our results have consistently been above national standards and despite the increase in expectations, 2016's were no different!

Our motto is, 'Where everyone is valued and learning is celebrated,' so our school is a warm, welcoming and happy place which is one of the reasons our children achieve particularly well. We have a very inclusive ethos and our children's behaviour is outstanding. Visitors always comment on the lovely atmosphere in school and all these factors help the children to learn and to enjoy learning! Huge thanks to our wonderful staff team, our children and their parents!

East Garforth Primary Academy



The children, staff and governors are very proud of our Academy and delighted to be recognised as one of Yorkshire's top achieving schools. It is our mission to offer every child a high quality education in a supportive, safe and challenging environment in which they feel valued and are inspired to become life-long learners.

Our motto is 'Be the best you can be' and we constantly strive to achieve this. Working in partnership with Delta Academies Trust, we are confident that we can provide a high quality education that ensures all children meet their full potential.

Harehills Primary School



Learn, laugh, love.

We are proud to have achieved such amazing outcomes in the first year of new tests demanding a higher standard than ever before. Our results are testimony to the dedication, commitment and energy of an incredible staff team who really do go "above and beyond" to care for and support our pupils.

We have built a culture of aspiration that empowers every child to achieve built on strong relationships right across our school community.

We live and breathe our school motto: 'Learn, Laugh, Love' and we believe that pupils learn best when they have fun and enjoy their learning. In our school you will find, happy, well behaved, caring children working together harmoniously.



Helping at home

Gary flockhart explains how you can get involved as a parent to help your child study

Most parents rate their child's classroom achievements as one of their top concerns — and that's no bad thing.

Indeed, studies show that when a parent holds high aspirations for their child, they do better at school.

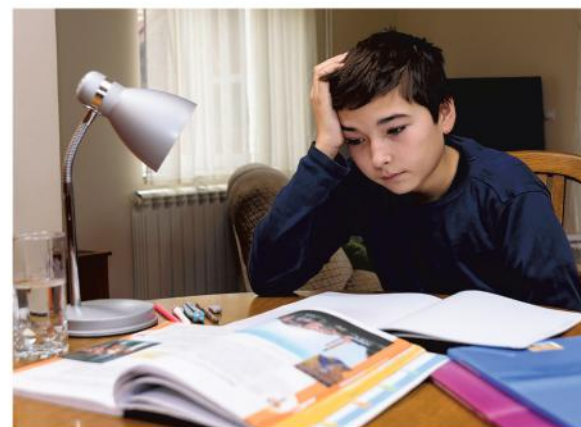
All that said, parents should be mindful that school can be incredibly stressful for children, especially when

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”

they are studying for exams. Fortunately, there are plenty of things a parent can do to help, such as establishing a good routine at home.

It goes without saying, but mornings are a mad rush in most households, and tips to get the day off to a smooth start include making sure your child packs their school bag and has their uniform laid out before going to bed.

Talking of which, a good night's sleep is essential, so



insist they don't take things like mobile phones and tablets to bed.

Everyone knows the cliché of breakfast being the most important meal of the day — and this is especially true for children. By skipping their morning meal, kids may experience poor concentration, low energy levels and moodiness, so don't put them at a disadvantage before the first lesson even begins.

As for homework, the

most useful stance parents can take, according to many experts, is to get involved but not overly so.

Sure, it's important you show an interest in what they are studying, but the emphasis needs to be on parents' helping kids do their homework themselves — not on doing it for them.

“Even if you know how to do it, and you think helping out will speed up the homework process, this will simply

fool the teachers into thinking their teaching has been adequate for your child and nothing will be done at school to help them,” says Mavis Kerrigan, a retired teacher and independent learning consultant.

Mavis also recommends that you don't tell your child about whichever subject you were weakest at during your own schooldays — even if you are struggling to help them with their maths homework.

“Be honest and say you don't have all the answers,” she advises.

Encouraging good reading habits is important, too.

Talk about the books your child is reading at school and tell them about some of the books you read yourself around that age. You can also go the library together and visit bookshops.

Come the weekend, tie in a family day out with work your child is doing in subjects like history, geography or art — after all, it's proven that youngsters learn better when they are having fun.