

# Top of the Class

The following schools have been identified as some of the highest attaining primary schools in Dewsbury in 2016. All the following schools performed over the county average percentage (62-100%) of pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths. Source: Department for Education

## Ravensthorpe CE (C) Junior School



'There is no better performing similar school, based on pupils' achievement at Key Stage 1, within 75 miles of Ravensthorpe Junior School' (Primary School Performance Tables December 2016).

We are delighted to be recognised as one of the top performing schools in Kirklees. The progress made by our children is truly exceptional and this is testament to the outstanding teaching and opportunities provided by our team of dedicated professionals. All our children are encouraged to 'dream big, aim high and achieve more.' In the words of one of our pupils, 'I like everything at Ravensthorpe Junior School - it's brilliant.'

## Scholes Village Primary School



### Learning Today for a Better Tomorrow

The staff and Governors at Scholes Village Primary are very proud to be recognised as one of the highest attaining schools in the region. We pride ourselves on our warm and welcoming environment that encourages children to support one another, work hard and achieve their best. Our dedicated team of staff deliver an exciting, engaging curriculum, through our key drivers of enterprise and Learning Outside the Classroom, that develops confident and resilient pupils. Supported by our parents we aim to give all our pupils the best start to their education. Find out more at <http://scholespri.kgft.dbprimary.com>

## Windmill CE Primary School



At Windmill CE Primary School, situated between Batley and Birstall, we are immensely proud of the success of our children. Our school is a welcoming, inclusive and caring community of learners. Since opening in April 2014, the school has gone from strength to strength and was recognised as **outstanding** in a Church School inspection in November 2016. Children of all abilities thrive at Windmill CE Primary School, expectations of children are high and the hard working staff do all they can to ensure every child succeeds. Children are proud to attend our School, they achieve highly and behave well.



## Helping at home

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

**M**ost 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.

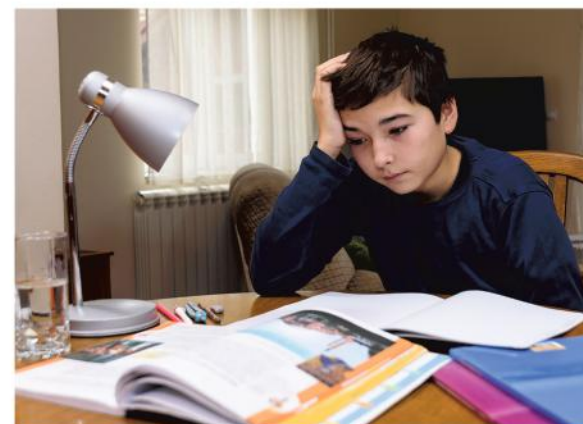
All that said, parents should be mindful that school can be incredibly stressful for children, especially when

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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.