



**WEST HOVE
INFANT SCHOOL**
.....
A family of friends



Hove Learning Federation School/Portland Road Newsletter

Friday 29th November 2024

Dear Families,

It has been a very busy week in school over the last seven days. As well as our Ofsted last Tuesday and Wednesday at the infants, we also had our IQM inspection on Friday. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for your support, well wishes and responding to 'Ofsted Parent View' over the last week. Your wonderful comments were truly appreciated. We will be looking forward to sharing the outcomes with you, hopefully by the end of term and if not early January when we receive the final reports.

Our two schools are very special places to work and learn, and all the pupils and staff are very passionate and proud to be a part of our learning communities. We know our parents/carers are also very aspirational for the school and want to do their very best for us.

This week we have shared our FAQs for the consultation with all our stakeholders and have responded to many questions during our sessions with parents/carers. These meetings have been very purposeful and it has been a privilege to talk to so many of you. Your passion and love of the schools is tangible. Through these meaningful discussions 'key themes' have been identified, and the FAQs will be updated this coming Monday via email and on the school websites in response to these questions. The relationships with our families is very important to us and are built on trust and at the heart of everything we do.

Spaces are still available for consultation meetings next week, and we look forward to welcoming more of you into the school to meet with us all.



Drop-in meeting for parents with representatives from Hove Learning Federation and Aurora Academies Trust At Holland Road site	Tuesday 3 rd December 30-minute sessions 9:30am – 1:00pm	Book using link below: 9.30am https://forms.gle/uQP6S3GWE893UxCd6 10.30am https://forms.gle/qswBi339LmMCnCkv5 11.30am https://forms.gle/puFYZv1o2T4SsvMQ8 12.30pm https://forms.gle/73HmVu5nZ91cqVR3A
Drop-in meeting for parents with representatives from Hove Learning Federation and Aurora Academies Trust West Hove Infant School School Road site	Thursday 5 th December 30-minute sessions 1:00pm – 5:00pm	Book using link below: 1pm https://forms.gle/TaAZmRPpQHKbtJHYA 2pm https://forms.gle/3aYpdHMSd39rbjwR6 3pm https://forms.gle/C5pnHbjDhExc9TuW7 4pm https://forms.gle/SEbsDRTni6mf6bh16
Drop-in meetings for non-parent community stakeholders with Executive Headteacher, Maddie Southern at School Road site	Monday 9 th December All day 9.00am – 6pm 30 minute sessions	Email Kate Cusack on katecusack@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk
Drop-in meetings for non-parent community stakeholders with Executive Headteacher, Maddie Southern and representatives from Aurora Academies Trust at Holland Road site	Thursday 12 th December All day 9.00am – 6pm 30 minute sessions	Email Kate Cusack on katecusack@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Please continue to keep in contact with us – should you have any questions or concerns, contact us via the following:

West Hove Infant School
hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk
 01273 916707

Hove Junior School
hollandroadenquiries@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk
 01273 916707

Hove Junior School Inclusion Team
inclusionteam@hovejun.brighton-hove.sch.uk
 01273 916609

Best wishes,
 Maddie Southern



Diary Dates

- 2nd December** - PR Author Visits
- 5th December** - Reindeer Run and PTA Events - PR
- 11th December** - Christmas Dinner
- 12th & 13th December** - YR & Y1 Christmas Performances
- 16th December** - Y3 Fab Finish
- 17th December** - Y4 Fab Finish
- 17th December** - YR Christmas Parties
- 18th December** - Y2 Christmas Performances
- 18th December** - Y5 Fab Finish
- 19th December** - YR Teddy Bears Picnic
- 19th December** - Y1 & Y2 Christmas Entertainment and Parties
- 19th December** - Y6 Fab Finish



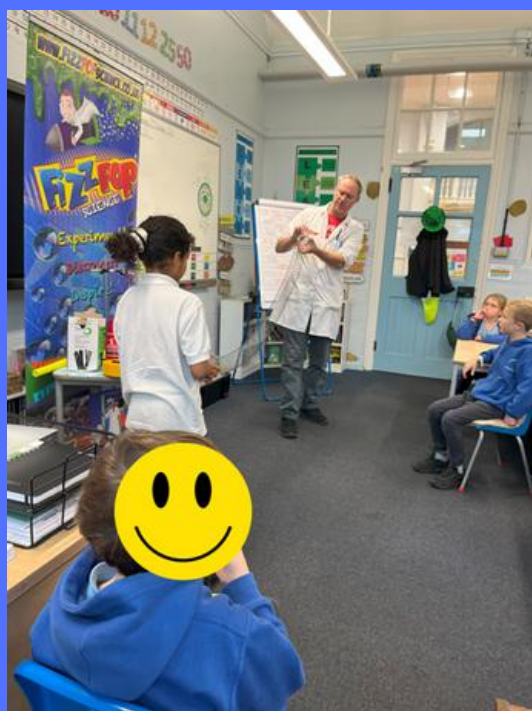
Year 4

A few weeks ago, Year 4 were lucky enough to take part in a Fizz Pop Science workshop in their own classrooms, all thanks to the PTA, who gave money for each year group to have an experience day.

During the workshop, the children were taught the fundamentals of sound, including how sound is made, and how it travels, and took part in a carousel of activities to see and hear sound in action. The activities included good old fashioned cup phones, making sounds with an array of objects, listening to and measuring sound with tools like a stethoscope, and even making their own instruments. As I'm sure you will know (and have heard), the children made their very own kazoo using everyday objects like straws, lolly sticks and elastic bands. The straws inside the lolly sticks vibrate when the air from your mouth passes through; science is fantastic!

The children had a wonderful time exploring sound and I know that they learned a lot from the day. Thanks again to the PTA.

Here are some photos of the children in action.





PE Update

Cross country '24 and Athletic opportunities

On Wednesday 13th November, Miss Anglada and Mr Cheng took a group of 40 year 5 and 6 children to the Primary Cross Country. The event took place at Waterhall Playing fields, the children had to run 2000m (2km) across a challenging course that took them up some pretty big hills! The sun shone all day and the energy and atmosphere was electric! Seeing 1,114 children taking part from 43 primary schools from across the city was pretty amazing!

We were so impressed with all the children who took part- you were all fantastic and represented the school brilliantly, special mention to the Yr 5 and year 6 Boys team (top four runners/ a team) that achieved **4th** position in their year group race and Year 6 Girls that achieved a whooping **2nd** place!

And some of these children will go through to finals in March!! We are all very proud!



The top 20 finishers in each event were given a letter at the finish. This gave them and their parent / carer information about the Sussex School Games Cross Country event on Thursday 27 March 2025 at Crawley Rugby Club. The parent/carer will need to speak with the school to make sure they are happy for them to attend on this date. Any questions about this please do get in touch with Miss A.

If any of your students would like to get involved with more running or athletics in B&H please do point them in the direction of the FREE junior parkruns that are in Brighton and Hove:

Preston Park [home](#) | [Preston Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#) | [Preston Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#)

Hove Park [home](#) | [Hove Park junior parkrun](#) | [Hove Park junior parkrun](#)

Queens Park [home](#) | [Queen's Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#) | [Queen's Park junior parkrun, Brighton](#)

There are also 2 junior clubs in the city:

[Brighton Phoenix](#)

[Club news – Brighton & Hove Athletic Club Brighton & Hove Athletic Club \(brightonandhoveac.com\)](#) They do have waiting lists for their junior sections. Freedom Leisure also run Junior drop in Athletics sessions at Withdean [Withdean Athletics Academy \(briefyourmarket.com\)](#)

Junior Events:

Brighton Half Marathon Junior Event Saturday 1 March 2025 More Information can be found here: [Take part in the Youth Races - Brighton Half Marathon](#) (Flyer also attached)

Brighton Marathon -Brighton Marathon Miles will take place again in 2025. [Mini Mile | Brighton Marathon Weekend](#)

Finally, thank you also to all the parents who helped support and get children to the event. It was great having you all cheering the children on. Here are some of our best results and highlights of the afternoon! Well done everyone!

Name	Position
Oscar W Year 5 boys	6
Donny	20
Katherine Yr6 Girls	9
Scarlett	10
Vincent Yr6 boys	11
Ollie	13





November 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

RE: Plastic Free Lunches

The Eco Councillors have noticed that there is a lot of plastic waste at break times and after lunch. So have launched a reduce plastic waste project.

The ideas we have come up with are:

- 1) Use re-useable bottles for water/juice/squash
- 2) Put sandwiches into a reusable container, grease-proof paper or a paper bag
- 3) Buy whole fruit to chop up and put into a reusable container
- 4) Buy a large packet of crisps and put 1 portion per day into a reusable container
- 5) Buy a large pot of yoghurt and put 1 portion per day into a reusable container
- 6) Re-use tinfoil and grease-proof paper
- 7) Use metal/bamboo cutlery
- 8) Make your own reusable containers by using:
 - *Margarine tubs
 - *Ice cream tubs
 - *Take-away containers

Thank you for your support on helping to make our school more eco-friendly.

With best regards,

Hove Junior Eco Councillors



ANTI-RACIST PARENT GROUP



We're seeking for members of our community to:

- ✓ Attend meetings once per half term to share positive work happening in the school and ways to improve
- ✓ Share their experiences with key staff in the school

**JOIN NOW!
SIGN UP VIA
THE QR
CODE**





Update from the Smartphone Free Childhood Working Group: Device Agreement

If your child receives a device this Christmas, it could be useful to ensure everyone in your family is on the same page about usage and rules, to maintain a peaceful household over the holidays and beyond!

Below is a template for a junior device agreement, which you could adapt to your own family's needs and preferences. This example has been written with an 8 year old receiving an iPad in mind. Attached with this newsletter is an editable template of the device agreement for you to use.

Our parent pact is still going strong, with more people signing up all the time. Every parent or carer who takes the pledge helps take the pressure off all the children in our community, ensuring they won't feel left out for not having one.

Sign the Smartphone Free Childhood Parent Pact [here](#).

Regular links

As always, find more info on our page on the school websites:

-[West Hove Infants](#)

-[Hove Juniors](#)

For friendly, informal discussion, support, and a space to ask questions about all things smartphone, please join our WhatsApp groups:

-Portland Road site: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EHAccChfegl6OUUCkC7MMM>

-Holland Road site: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CmBDzMPJH0X4MTRtmH3wde>

Wishing everyone a great weekend!

All the best, the West Hove Infant and Hove Junior SFC Working Group

Device Rules, Guidance and Expectations - Our Family Agreement



Child's Section

I understand that having a device is a privilege and a responsibility.

I agree to the following:



Managing my time

- I will ask permission before using my device.
- I will keep track of and respect the time limits agreed for use on the device and apps.
- I will leave my device in the agreed place when I go to bed and when I am not using it.
- I will not take my device into my bedroom.
- I will only take my device out of the house when agreed with my grown up/s.



Coping with distractions

- I will not use my device whilst walking about.
- I will only use my device at mealtimes if agreed with my grown up/s.



Thinking before acting

- I will never share my device access code or passwords with anyone other than my grown up/s.
- I won't lend my device to others.

- I will always get permission before downloading apps or making any purchases.
- For any approved apps that require an online profile, I will create these with my grown up/s.
- I will not accept phone calls/ Facetime/ video calls or respond to messages from unknown numbers/ people.
- I will act responsibly, and I understand that everything I do on my device will be reviewed by my grown up/s.
- I will never take embarrassing photos/ videos of others.
- I will tell my grown up/s if I see anything worrying or that upsets me.
- If I make a mistake or something makes me unhappy, I will come to you knowing you will support and help me without over-reacting.



Being accountable for my actions

- I will not change my password or access code(s).
- I know my grown up/s will make random checks.
- I will contribute towards the expense of repairing the device if I break it or lose it.
- I understand that the replacement might not be the device of my choice.
- I understand the device may be taken away if I don't use it responsibly or if I don't behave respectfully.
- I understand my friends may have different rules and settings on their devices.
- I respect that my grown up/s make their decisions based on keeping me safe.
- My grown up/s will make sure friends are aware of the rules in our home.
- I will tell my parents if my friends bring devices to playdates/ sleepovers.
- My friends will have to follow these rules too if they bring a device to our house. "Our home, our rules".



Grown-up's Section

We know that everyone makes mistakes, and we also know that sometimes things might happen with your device that are not your fault.

We agree to the following:

- We will listen to you when you tell us about something that makes you uncomfortable.
- We will try not to overreact if you make a mistake.
- We will try to learn new things so that we understand the apps you want to use.
- We will set a good example with our own device use.

REMEMBER: If you make a mistake or if something is making you unhappy, you must let grown up/s know. We promise to support and help you xxx

Parent and Carers Questionnaire: Mental Health and Wellbeing Provision

My name is Issy, and I am a trainee Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP) at Hove Juniors School. I am part of the School's Mental Health Service from Brighton and Hove Council.

We'd really appreciate your help in completing this anonymous questionnaire to gather insights about your awareness of mental health support at the school and in the local area. Your responses will help us figure out how we can enhance mental health support for your children.

This survey is part of a broader effort to understand mental health services at Hove Juniors School and in the surrounding community. We'll speak with children, parents, carers, and school staff to gain a full picture.

Completing this survey should take about 5-10 minutes. If more than one parent or carer in your family would like to complete this questionnaire, you're welcome to re-click the original link to generate a blank questionnaire.

If you need assistance or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at: issy.jackson@brighton-hove.gov.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this brief survey, we really appreciate it.

Parents and Carers Survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/yKYYH64MpT>



Best Children's Books for Primary School Children: Christmas 2024 Gift Guide

(https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/primary-school-book-gift-guide/?utm_campaign=Nov%202024&utm_term=Christmas%20Gift%20Guides:&utm_medium=email&utm_source=directmailmac)

Books make a superb choice of Christmas gifts for children. From timeless bedtime stories and curious information books to festive favourites and glorious gift books, we've selected our top recommendations for book gifts for children in their primary years.

Head to our [Book Gift Guide for Ages 3-5](#) to find bookish Christmas presents for EYFS children. There, you'll find Christmas nativity stories like [Twinkly, Twinkly Nativity](#), classic story books like [The Tiger Who Came to Tea](#), and beautiful bedtime story compendiums to treasure, such as [Axel Scheffler's Treasury of Fairy Tales](#).

In this year's [Book Gift Guide for Ages 5-7](#), we ho-ho-hope you'll love the selection of recommended books for KS1 children. Whether you are looking for fun, festive read-alouds like [The Christmasaurus](#) and [the Night Before Christmas](#) or laugh-out-loud Christmas Eve adventures like [Santa Needs a New Bum](#), we're sure this guide will fill your little ones with festive cheer.

Browse our [Book Gift Guide for Ages 7-9](#) to find presents for children in Years 3 and 4. We've also included popular favourites like [The Wild Robot](#) and super fun choose-your-own-adventure style books like [Solve Your Own Mystery: The Monster Maker](#), as well as impressive knowledge compendiums like the [Britannica Encyclopedia Infographica](#).

In our [Book Gift Guide for Ages 9-11](#), you'll find a range of reading styles and interests covered for years 5 and 6. Whether you are looking for jolly, festive stories like [The Christmas Carrolls](#), music-filled interactive adventures like [The Boy Who Slept Through Christmas](#) or information books for curious minds like [Hamza's Wild World](#), we hope the books in this selection find their way into plenty of Christmas stockings this year.

Each of the guides includes purchasing links and a [printable PDF version](#) to share with your school community.

Hove Learning Federation

After School Club

We offer wraparound care for your child at our **HLF** Afterschool Club. The children attend straight from school until 6pm. During this time your child can immerse themselves in Lego play, fancy dress, arts and crafts as well as play in one of our playgrounds - there's something for everyone. It gives the children a safe space to unwind after a busy day of learning with their friends, under the care of our fabulous school club team led by Eddie

£15 per session with 10% discount for additional siblings when attending the same session.

Book your child's space via Magic Booking ensuring to include additional information such as medical needs and allergies within the profile section.

If your child is attending another club beforehand or is being picked up by someone else, please contact Eddie on eddiecockerell@westhove-inf.brighton-hove.sch.uk



A high tea is also offered during this session - this is not intended as a substitute for a main evening meal.

Afterschool Club is based within the School Canteen - accessed via the Infants pedestrian gate.

HLF club



Are you concerned about your child's mental health?



- Anxiety
- Low mood
- Difficulties regulating emotions
- Self esteem and confidence
- Sleep difficulties
- Fears and phobias
- Separation, loss and bereavement



Scan the QR code below to refer your concern to Hove Learning Federation's Mental Health Lead. Link also available on our school website.

<https://www.westhoveinfants.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2023/03/Capture-1.png>



Naomi Miller (Mental Health Lead) will contact you within a week of your referral.

New referrals will be discussed at half termly triage meetings and support allocated.

NB: If you have an urgent concern about a child's mental health please call 0300 304 0061 during office hours or 0300 5000 101 outside of office hours.

Schools Mental Health Service



Parent/carer support

Is your child not able to attend school?

Do you need support with your child or want to meet others in the same situation?



Come along to our parent/carer drop in:

**Wednesday 11th
December
10-11.30am at
ALCAMPO LOUNGE,
LONDON ROAD**

For more information, please contact

Sharyn.brazier@brighton-hove.gov.uk OR

jo.roeg@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Family Support Workers from the Schools Mental Health Service



The Schools Mental Health Service is now on Facebook - please follow us for news on events for parents and families from us and our partners
Find us at [Facebook](#)



Cutting the cost of keeping warm

We understand how difficult it can be when energy bills start to rise. By making some small, simple changes we can all save money while staying safe and well.

Save money when cooking

When cooking, put a lid on your pan as this can save you money on your energy bill. Putting a lid on your pan allows water to boil faster and the lid keeps the heat in the pan, rather than letting it escape, speeding up cooking time and helping you use less energy.

Slow cookers save money! Slow cookers are an extremely efficient way to cook, you can batch cook meals. Likewise, microwaves and air fryers are also great alternatives to using ovens.

Switch off your appliances

Turning off lights and switching appliances off standby when not in use can save **£52** a year on energy bills.



Do not over fill

Only boil as much as you need, overfilling your kettle wastes energy.



Turn down your thermostat



By turning down your thermostat from 22°C to 21°C, you could save **£90** on your energy bills.

Wash on eco or 30°C or cooler cycles when you can. Washing at 30°C rather than higher temperatures could save **£12** a year

LED lights

Switch your lights to energy-friendly LED light bulbs. If you are able to replace your old light bulbs with LEDs, you could save around **£40+** a year and as a bonus, they last five times longer



Full load

Only wash with a full load, cutting back on just one washing cycle a week can save you an additional **£12** a year and further savings on metered water bills.



Use a washing bowl

Using a bowl to wash up rather than a running tap can save you money on your energy and water bills if you have a water meter. You only need to run a typical tap for 95 seconds before you would have filled a washing up bowl.⁵

Take shorter showers

Spending just one minute less in the shower can save **£16** a year in a typical household and uses far less energy than taking a bath. Sticking to 4-minute showers could save a typical household **£60** on energy bills and around **£75** on metered water bills every year.⁶

Replacing an inefficient shower head with a water-efficient one can reduce your yearly gas bill by **£25**. If you have a water meter as well, you can save another **£35** - that's a total saving of **£60** each year.⁷



Maximise your income

Every year, millions of households miss out on thousands of pounds worth of benefits, that they are entitled to. Turn2us's benefit calculator easily and quickly identifies any benefits you are entitled to claim to increase your income.

Visit: benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk/

We're committed to helping our customers keep safe and well. We work with a number of services and organisations that can provide help and support on energy fuel efficiency.



Safer Homes Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Fitting a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm in your home is a great way of keeping you and your family safe from the dangers of (CO). CO is an odourless, tasteless, and invisible gas that is dangerous, and can be created from faulty gas appliances.

The Safe Homes programmes offers households a free CO alarm (maximum of one per household). Scan the QR code to request an alarm or visit: client.simplythankyou.co.uk/co2neutral/login.php

Please use the below details when requesting your free CO alarm:
Username = coalarms Password = Saferhomes123



Help and support with energy bills



National Energy Action (NEA)

If you need advice and support on your energy bills, please visit: nea.org.uk/get-help



Citizens Advice

If you need information on grants and benefits to help you pay your energy bills, please visit: citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/



Groundwork

If you need help with saving money on your energy bills or improving efficiency within your home, please visit: groundwork.org.uk/energy-efficiency-and-fuel-poverty/



The Priority Services Register

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free service that helps energy companies to look after customers who have extra communication, access, or safety needs. It helps us tailor our services to support households who need extra help with everyday energy matters like bills, and also in the unlikely event of a power cut or gas supply interruption.

Find out if you are eligible and register at: thePSR.co.uk



Adult cycle training courses in Brighton & Hove



Whether you're a complete beginner looking to start cycling or a regular cyclist who want to brush up on their skills, our instructors will tailor a cycle training session to suit you.

We offer one to one or small group training courses

For details of adult courses please visit

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/city-cycling-skills-and-training

For further information please email east.central@brighton-hove.gov.uk



INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate **££s** to schools.

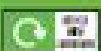
**CASHPOT
FOR
SCHOOLS**



HERE'S HOW


- 1** Download the Asda Rewards app & sign up today
- 2** Opt-in to Cashpot for Schools and follow the steps in your app
- 3** Shop, scan and we donate

With
Parentkind




Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. App & Opt in required. 0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools must register with Parentkind charity 1072833. Full T&Cs at [asda.com/cashpotforschools](https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools). Rewards T&Cs at [asda.com/rewards/terms](https://www.asda.com/rewards/terms). Ends 30.11.24

FRED THE SHED



Fred the Shed is a school community non profit sharing shed that can help with non perishing items to those who are finding it especially hard in the current climate.




Our aim is to help as many families in our school community as possible and it is run by volunteering parents and carers, the sharing shed completely relies on donations of non perishable items which can be dropped into either school reception areas.



OPEN every Friday
after school


along with Fred's free bakery
which comes from generous
volunteers from Olio

Fred the Shed is located in the juniors front playground just next to the main gates




If you don't feel comfortable with approaching the sharing shed, please email our anonymous email address fredshedschoolroad@gmail.com

and items can be requested and left in the school reception area.



If you'd like to support Fred the Shed with your time, contact fowhis@gmail.com
To keep Fred stocked, there are collection bins in both school receptions.



**Vanessa Patterson
Primary Tutor**



Term time
sessions
running until
May



Year 6 SATs Maths

Booster Group Classes

What the classes involve:

- Developing arithmetic calculation methods
- Applying arithmetic methods to problem solving
- Practical ways to answer questions
- Building confidence to answer questions

**Thursdays
5.45pm-6.45pm
online
£20 per hour**

- Fully qualified teacher
- DBS checked
- Friendly and supportive tutor
- 20 years classroom experience

Contact Vanessa at:
mrspprimarytutor@gmail.com
or 07540827713 to secure your
child's space

**Vanessa Patterson
Primary Tutor**



**Suitable for
ages 7-10**



Times Table Booster Group

What the classes involve:

- Support to learn key multiplication facts
- Fun games and interactive activities
- Tips for recalling 'tricky' facts
- Building confidence and speed

**Term time
Wednesdays
5.30pm-6.00pm
online
£10 per session**

- Fully qualified teacher
- DBS checked
- Friendly and supportive tutor
- 20 years classroom experience

**Contact Vanessa at:
mrspprimarytutor@gmail.com
or 07540827713 to secure your
child's space**

Brand Vaughan are proud to be partnered with West Hove Infant School and Hove Junior School.



brand
vaughan

Sell or let your property with Brand Vaughan and receive **20% off** our standard selling or lettings fee.

Each time you sell or let your property through Brand Vaughan, West Hove Junior School will receive **10%** of the referred selling or letting fee.

Our partnership with West Hove Junior school, not only benefits you, but also benefits your children's school.

Speak to our team today, we offer free, no obligation valuations.

Use code **WESTHOVEBV20** to claim your **20% discount.**



Sales

Jimmy Atkins
01273 22 11 02



Lettings

Jenna Miles
01273 22 11 01