

The Wren School

Home-School Agreement policy

Purpose and Background

It is a statutory requirement that The Wren School has a home-school agreement, which is a statement explaining:

- the school's aims and values;
- the school's responsibilities towards its students;
- the responsibility of each student's 'parents' ¹/carers; and
- what the school expects of its students.

This home-school agreement takes account of all relevant legislation.

Policy objectives

This home-school agreement aims to establish a partnership between The Wren School, parents and students, in accordance with the school vision and ethos. We want to work with parents to support our students during their teenage years so that together we can ensure they fulfil their academic aspirations and develop a good character. This home-school agreement does not include any terms or conditions which could be considered unlawful or unreasonable, such as requiring parents to make a financial contribution to the school, or refusing to waive any requirement on school uniform in cases where the parent and child cannot comply for religious reasons. Any breaches of the terms of the agreement will not be actionable through the courts. Furthermore, a child will not be excluded from school, or face punishment, as a result of a parent's failure to sign the agreement or abide by their declaration. Neither will parents face any sanction for either not signing the home-school agreement or failing to abide by its requirements.

Management of the policy

School	This policy is implemented and managed by the headteacher.
Governing body	The Governors' Local Governing Board will review and update this policy on a regular basis in line with all relevant legislation.
Approval	Updated and approved by the Governors' Teaching and Learning Committee - May 2017
Next review due	May 2020. The Wren School will review the agreement every three years or sooner if the guidance changes and the current agreement is no longer

¹ For the legal definition of parent see section 576 of the Education Act 1996

appropriate. Before revisiting the home-school agreement, all parents of registered students at the school will be consulted.

Associated policies

- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Equality
- Uniform

Practice and procedures

The Wren School will take reasonable steps to ensure that:

- all registered parents of students sign the parental declaration to indicate that they understand and accept the contents of the home-school agreement;
- all parents/carers both within and outside the child's home (giving equal weight to mothers and fathers jointly and severally) are given the opportunity to indicate that they understand and accept the contents of the home-school agreement, and review the content of the agreement regularly during the time their child is at school;
- where parents have separated, both mothers and fathers are given the opportunity to sign a copy of the agreement's parental declaration.

The Wren School will not:

- seek the signature of a parent where they consider that there are special circumstances relating to the parent or student in question that would make it inappropriate to do so.;
- invite a parent or child to sign the parental declaration before the child has been admitted to the school;
- make the signing of the parental declaration a condition of the child's admission to the school; or
- base a decision about admitting a child to the school on assumptions about whether his or her parents are or are not likely to sign the parental declaration.

The Wren School will also invite all students to sign the agreement as an indication that they acknowledge and accept the school's expectations.

The original signed version of the Home-School agreement will be kept in the student's folder, which will be kept in a locked filing cabinet in the key stage office. A copy will be sent home for parents to keep. The wording of the home-school agreement will be reproduced in the student planners.

Associated documents

School Standards and Framework Act 1998 - sections 110 and 111

Home-school agreements. Guidance for local authorities and governing bodies July 2013

Appendices

A. The Wren School Home-School Agreement.



Home-School Agreement

Our vision and ethos at The Wren School is that
“each child, regardless of background,
will receive a world-class education and
be nurtured, challenged and inspired to aim high”

We want to work with you and your child so that together we can ensure they fulfil their academic aspirations and develop a good character.

Name of child:

Date of entry to The Wren School:

A. The School's Agreement

We agree to:

- treat your child fairly, care for and nurture them, promoting their well-being;
- ensure that your child is well taught and provided with clear feedback to secure good progress and aim high;
- keep you well informed about:
 - your child's academic progress and achievements;
 - any concerns with your child's work, behaviour or relationships;
 - school events, and;
 - general school matters;
- give you opportunities to discuss your child's achievement, behaviour, progress, records or any other concern;
- take prompt action when we are worried about attendance and/or unauthorised absence as well as punctuality;
- help your child to develop a sense of responsibility and to be considerate of others, showing respect and kindness at all times;
- provide a broad range of subjects and a variety of extra-curricular activities;
- provide appropriate guidance to enable your child to fulfil their potential and to make informed choices at each stage of their learning.

Signed:  Headteacher

B. The Parent or Carer's Agreement

I agree to:

- ensure that my child attends school regularly, on time, wearing the correct school uniform (including footwear, jewellery, etc), with all the necessary equipment;
- inform the school by telephone, text or email on the first day of absence and follow up in writing giving the reason for my child's absence on his/her return and providing medical evidence for periods of absence of three or more days;
- request time off in advance for my child if he/she needs to be absent from school;
- support the school policies, including the behaviour and discipline policy;
- ensure that my child follows the expectations of the school in terms of behaviour whenever wearing uniform or representing the school, including travelling to and from school;
- if my child loses or damages school property/equipment e.g. school planner, then I may be charged for its repair/replacement;
- attend meetings with relevant members of staff to support my child;
- encourage positive attitudes towards all school, learning and extended learning activities;
- keep the school informed about changes to my contact details;
- make early contact with the school on any matters affecting my child's progress, welfare or behaviour, including any medical conditions;
- talk to my child about the internet sites that they use and report any concerns via the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) button as well as to the school (admin@wrenschool.org);
- ensure that my child pays attention to road safety on the journey to and from school, ensuring that, if he/she rides a bicycle to school, the school's advice to ride it safely, maintain it properly, wear a cycle helmet and use lights in the dark will be followed.

Signed:..... Parent/Carer

C. The Student's Agreement

I agree to:

- be reasonable, polite and courteous and behave in ways which bring credit to myself and to the school;
- show respect and kindness to other members of our school community, as well as school property and resources;
- come to school on time each day and be punctual to all my lessons;
- follow instructions first time and without complaint;
- ensure that I follow the expectations of the school in line with the school Behaviour Policy;
- wear the correct school uniform, including footwear, jewellery, etc., with pride, behaving appropriately at all times, including when traveling to and from school;
- aim high and work to the best of my ability and be proud of my achievements:
 - complete all classwork and extended learning activities, developing my skills as an independent learner;
 - be properly equipped and prepared to carry out each day's activities;
 - try to respond to all teacher feedback and suggestions for improvement;
- look after our environment: care for and maintain our classrooms, the buildings and the school grounds, keeping them free of litter;
- tell a member of staff at the school if something worries me;
- pay attention to safety, moving around quietly and sensibly and following all expectations that apply to the specialist teaching spaces;
- ensure that my mobile phone and other electronic devices are switched off and out of sight during the school day unless a member of staff agrees that they can be used for learning;
- behave responsibly and appropriately when using social networking sites, the internet and websites, reporting any concerns via the CEOP button, as well as to a trusted adult at the school, or by email to admin@wrenschool.org;
- pay attention to road safety on my way to and from school, ensuring that, if I ride a bicycle to school, I follow the school's advice to ride it safely, maintain it properly, wear a cycle helmet and use lights in the dark.

Signed: Student