

HOME / SCHOOL AGREEMENT

1. What is a Home/School Agreement?

A home/school agreement will explain the aims and values of your child's school. It will spell out the responsibilities of the school and what the school expects of their pupils and students and importantly, the responsibilities of the families.

2. Why are Home/School Agreements important?

Pupils and students achieve more when school and families work together. Home/school agreements will help you to work with your child's school. Your support and encouragement are very important if your child is to make the most of school.

St Dominic's School will:

- Value and care for each child as a unique individual.
- Contact you if there is a problem with attendance, punctuality, uniform or equipment.
- Let you know about any concerns or problems that affect your child's work or behaviour and immediately on suspicion of any form of bullying or any serious issue regarding behaviour support.
- Send school reports on a half termly basis.
- Clearly identify termly Residential Targets.
- Clearly identify termly Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy Targets.
- Send you Annual Review reports for discussion at Annual Review meetings.
- Arrange PLP (Personal Learning Plan) meetings and an Annual Review Meeting during which progress will be discussed.
- Keep you informed about school activities through regular newsletters, website information, notices and texts about special events and leaflets advising families about school policies and guidelines.
- Keep families informed of any changes in the school routine.
- Aim to provide the best possible education for every child meeting his or her individual special needs.
- Share information about the school's behaviour policy and explain the policy on the use of physical intervention.
- Provide a safe, caring environment, free from all prejudice.
- Deal with any family concerns and complaints promptly and effectively within three working days.
- Provide an opportunity, at least annually, for you to express your views about the school and have those views listened to.

- Ensure that PLP Targets are in place for each pupil and student.
- Have clear aims and learning objectives for all pupils and students.
- Consult you via questionnaires and other media.
- Through the surgery staff, we will contact families with any medical concerns regarding the pupil or student and liaise with all medical services if required.
- Liaise with all agencies involved with your child, ie Social Services, Health, Education, Careers, Educational Psychology Service and CAMHS in order to secure appropriate services and provision.
- Through the Admissions and Family Liaison Manager, St Dominic's will offer families further support in their relationships with other interested agencies and highlight opportunities that may be available outside of the education environment.
- Give your child the best opportunities to leave St Dominic's with a wide range of skills and independence to the maximum of each pupil/student's ability.
- Provide homework as appropriate.

The Families will:

- See that their child attends St Dominic's regularly, on time, in uniform / appropriately dressed and properly equipped, in accordance with the Attendance Policy (see enclosed document).
- If their child is not attending, to inform the school before 9.00am. Non-attendance is subject to the Attendance Policy, parents must be very clear as to expected levels of attendance for pupils and students at St Dominic's.
- Understand that the school takes attendance very seriously and will work closely with families who may need support in this area. Regular school attendance is a legal requirement; please see the enclosed Attendance Policy.
- Let St Dominic's know about any concerns or problems that might affect their child's work or behaviour by liaising with your child's tutor, head of lower/upper school or other appropriate member of staff.
- Support St Dominic's policies and guidelines for behaviour. Our Positive Behaviour Policy and Exclusions Policy are enclosed, parents and pupils/students should be aware of the guidelines to which we are working as a school.
- Work with their child and the school to promote positive behaviour and, by signing below, to indicate their agreement with, our Positive Behaviour Policy.
- Support their child in extended learning at home.
- Attend and contribute towards Annual Reviews, PLP Meetings and discussions about their child's progress.
- Get to know about their child's life at St Dominic's and take an active part in it.
- Keep regular contact with their child throughout the week, by telephone if residential.
- Read all communications from St Dominic's and reply as requested.
- Actively encourage their child and support the school, in ensuring they comply with health and safety regulations and requests, including participation in fire drills and evacuations as necessary.

- Will communicate, in confidence if necessary, either by phone or written, all new information, especially medical and safeguarding information regarding their child.
- Share with the school the involvement of any professional help to ensure we work together for the child's benefit.
- Ensure that any equipment or materials loaned to the child to support learning at home is returned to the school when requested.
- Families will talk to St Dominic's staff about their own aims for their child, both in the School and Residentially.
- Work with their child and the school on agreed targets to achieve consistency.
- Discuss their child with the Education/Residential Link Workers.
- Reimburse the school for any damages to school property caused as a result of primary behaviour.
- Acknowledge that the school is working to ensure the best possible outcomes for every pupil and student.
- Abide by the Families and Visitors Code of Conduct, a copy of which can be found on our website at www.stdominicsschool.org.uk under 'Policies', which is accessed through the 'Key Information' tab.

Pupils/Students will always endeavour to:

- Attend school regularly and punctually.
- Wear full school uniform, unless directed otherwise, and take a pride in their appearance.
- Take care of themselves and others and treat people and property with respect.
- Work hard in lessons to develop their abilities to the full and to meet the targets set by the school,
- Complete all homework set and hand it in at the appropriate time.
- Be good citizens by helping teachers truthfully with investigations and telling them if they know that someone is being bullied.
- Use the school's computer systems according to the rules laid down; when using the Internet always strictly follow teachers' instructions.
- Follow the rules on mobile phones and electronic devices.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED ON NEXT PAGE – TO BE RETURNED TO ST DOMINIC'S

HOME/SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Please sign and return this page **ONLY** together with the other signed documents in the Starters Pack. Please keep the copy of the Home/School Agreement and policies for your records.

NAME OF CHILD _____

I agree to abide by the Home/School Agreement, a copy of which has been retained by me.

I have received copies of the following policies and agree to abide by their contents, copies of which have been retained by me.

- Attendance Policy
- Exclusions Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy

Signed _____

(on behalf of
family)

Name (print)

Signed



(on behalf of
school)

Name (print)

VICKY PERRY (Principal) _____

Signed _____

(Pupil/Student)

Name (print) _____