

Home – School Agreement

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Document Control

This document is issued, controlled and impact assessed by the Senior Leadership Team.

The latest version of the procedure will be maintained on the School Website.

Introduction

- Sections 110 and 111 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 provide that academies adopt a home-school agreement and associated parental declaration.
- Home-school agreements can raise standards and contribute to school effectiveness by enhancing partnerships between parents and teachers.
- Home-school agreements also provide a framework for the development of such a partnership. The processes involved in introducing and reviewing the agreement clarifies for the Endeavour Academy, what it is trying to achieve, and the agreement sets out the role of the school, parents and students in this vital partnership.

Definition

- 'Home-school agreement' means a statement explaining, the Endeavour Academy's aims and values; its responsibilities towards its students who are of compulsory school age, the responsibilities of the students' parents and what the Endeavour Academy expects of its students.
- 'Parent(s)' means parent(s) and carer(s).
- 'School' means the Endeavour Academy.
- 'The Apollo Schools Trust' (The Trust) means the Company undertaking to establish and maintain, and to carry on or provide for the carrying on of the school.

Related Policies and Documents

- All Trust policies relate to the Home-School Agreement.

Rationale

- Effective Home-School Agreements successfully build on existing working relationships between home and the school. The partnership promoted by an agreement should result in:
 - better home-school communication (for example, on issues such as student progress, information on what students will be taught, home-learning, and domestic concerns that may affect the students' ability to learn effectively);
 - parents and coaches working together on issues of concern (for example, aspirations, expectations, behaviour, bullying and drug education);
 - parents supporting and helping their children's learning at home more effectively;
 - this identification of issues that need to be addressed through the School Improvement Plan (SIP).

- The clarification of roles and responsibilities in a home-school agreement, supported by effective home-school policy and practice, should generate high expectations, parental encouragement and support, and strong home-school links.

Core Principles

The core principles of this agreement are:

- That for students to have the best chance of success at the Endeavour Academy, it is important that parents, students and the school are able to work together. They all have an equally important part to play in the partnership.
- That all staff have the right to work and all students have the right to learn in an environment that is safe, conducive to learning and free from disruption.
- That students can expect appropriate action from the school to tackle any incidents of violence, threatening behaviour, abuse, discrimination or harassment.
- To make the partnership work effectively we must all be supportive and committed to work for mutual best interest, as such we ask parents and students to sign an agreement containing the following and return it to form tutors.

Endeavour Academy Undertaking

The school undertakes to:

- Value each individual for their unique strengths.
- Maintain a safe and ordered environment so that learning can take place.
- Let parents know about any problems with attendance, punctuality or equipment.
- Use the school reporting system to monitor students' work and to communicate with home.
- Communicate student achievement through regular assessments and reports.
- Set, mark and monitor independent study and provide facilities at the school for independent study.
- Ensure fair treatment for all students by enforcing the Behaviour Policy.
- Inform parents about opportunities to discuss students' progress.
- Respond promptly to requests for information and assistance.
- Carefully follow the Complaints Policy to ensure that all concerns or complaints are promptly and effectively handled.

Expectations

- The expectations that the school and parents may reasonably hold are as follows.

The Endeavour Academy:

- Expect students and parents cooperation in maintaining an orderly climate for learning.
- Expect students to respect the rights of other students and adults in the school.
- Not to tolerate violence threatening behaviour or abuse by students and parents. If a parent does not conduct himself / herself properly, they may be banned from the school premises and, if the parent continues to cause nuisance or disturbance, they may be liable to prosecution.
- To take firm action against students who harass or denigrate teachers or other school staff, on or off premises; engaging external support, including the police, as appropriate

Parents:

- To be kept informed about their child's progress, including issues relating to behaviour.
- To expect their child to be safe, secure and respected in the school.
- To have any complaint they make about a child being bullied taken seriously by the Endeavour Academy and investigated.
- To appeal to the Head of School and beyond to the Trust, if they believe the Endeavour Academy has exercised its disciplinary authority unreasonably.

Responsibilities

- The responsibilities of students, parents, the Endeavour Academy and The Trust under this agreement are as follows.

Students:

- To follow reasonable instructions by Endeavour Academy staff, obey rules and accept sanctions in an appropriate way.
- To act as positive ambassador for the Endeavour Academy when not on Endeavour Academy premises.

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- Not to bring inappropriate or unlawful items into the Endeavour Academy.
- To show respect to staff, fellow students, Endeavour Academy property and the school environment.
- Never to denigrate, harm or bully students or staff.
- To take responsibility for their own safety whilst on the wider school and college campus.

The Endeavour Academy:

- To enforce the Behaviour Policy including rules and disciplinary measures.
- To establish and communicate clearly measures to ensure good behaviour, order, respect and discipline.
- To support, praise and as appropriate reward students' good behaviour.
- To apply sanctions fairly, consistently, proportionately and reasonably.
- To take all reasonable measures to protect the safety and well-being of staff and students including preventing all forms of bullying and dealing effectively with reports and complaints.

Parents:

- To respect the Behaviour Policy and the disciplinary authority of staff.
- To help ensure that their child follows reasonable instructions by all staff and adhere to Endeavour Academy rules.
- To send their child to the Endeavour Academy each day punctually, suitably clothed, fed, rested and equipped to learn.
- To ensure staff are aware of any special educational needs-related or other personal factors which may result in their child displaying behaviours outside the normal range.
- To be prepared to work with the Endeavour Academy to support to support their child's positive behaviour.
- To attend meetings with the Head of School or other staff, if requested, to discuss their child's behaviour.
- To adhere the terms of any parenting contract or order relating to their child's behaviour.
- If their child is excluded from the Endeavour Academy, to ensure the child is not found in a public place during school hours in the first 5 days of exclusion and if invited to attend a reintegration interview with the Endeavour Academy at the end of a fixed period exclusion.

The Trust must:

- Before adopting or revising the home-school agreement, The Trust must consult all registered parents of students at the Endeavour Academy who are of compulsory school age.
- The Trust must take reasonable steps to ensure that all registered parents of students of compulsory school age sign the parental declaration to indicate that they understand and accept the contents of the agreement.
- The Trust is not required to 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.
- The Trust may also invite any student, whom they consider to have a sufficient understanding of the home-school agreement as it relates to him or her, to sign the parental declaration as an indication that he or she acknowledges and accepts the School's expectations of its students.
- In carrying out their responsibilities in relation to home-school agreements, The Trust will have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- Breaches of the terms of the agreement will not be actionable through the courts.
- A student must not be excluded from school, nor should a student and /or his or her parents suffer any other adverse consequences on account of his or her parents' failure or refusal to sign the parental declaration.

The Trust must not:

- Invite a parent or student to sign the parental declaration before the student has been admitted to the Endeavour Academy.
- Make the signing of the parental declaration a condition of the student's admission to the Endeavour Academy.
- Base a decision as to whether to admit a student to the Endeavour Academy on whether his or her parents are or are not likely to sign the parental declaration.

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Policy Review

- This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Breach of this policy may lead to action being taken under the Endeavour Academy's formal Disciplinary Procedure. Any employee, who feels they have been treated in a manner contrary to the spirit of this policy, should seek recourse in accordance with the Endeavour Academy's Grievance or Dignity at Work procedures.

HOME - SCHOOL AGREEMENT

This contract is made on (Date)

between

DOB

and the Endeavour Academy.

I agree that as a student of the Endeavour Academy, I have a number of binding legal rights and responsibilities as explained in the Home -School Agreement. I understand that failure to comply with these responsibilities may result in further sanctions that could include permanent exclusion.

Student
(Print Name)

Signed

Parent
(Print Name)

Signed

On behalf of the Endeavour Academy:

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(Print Name)

Signed