



Home School Agreement Secondary Years

The nature of Secondary education is one of partnership and it is essential that students, parents and Bede Academy work together. The Home School Agreement is drawn up so that each of the three parties can read, agree to and sign this commitment. It is an agreement that is not to be taken lightly by any of the three parties since failure in upholding the agreement reduces the likelihood of successful schooling and education. Failure in upholding this agreement by any one of the parties, despite the best effort of the others, could ultimately lead to either to a parent withdrawing their child from the academy, or to a student being excluded, both of which we would hope to avoid.

The commitment of Bede Academy

Bede Academy recognises its obligation to provide a safe and positive environment in which students may grow academically, socially, culturally and spiritually. Accordingly the academy agrees to:

- provide teaching and directed study for 30 periods per week throughout the academy year;
- provide and mark homework for all subjects, returning marked work within no more than 10 working days of it being handed in.
- provide each student with a form tutor who meets with them at specified times during the academic year to discuss academic and personal progress and be available throughout the year on an *ad hoc* basis.
- provide opportunities for extra-curricular involvement in sporting and cultural activities.
- provide thorough and detailed periodic testing and parental reports on academic progress throughout the time students spend at Bede Academy.

The commitment of students

All students agree to:

- set an example to all other academy students by upholding the academy's values in speech and action, and to act as positive role models to younger students;
- be willing to accept positions of leadership amongst the student body as offered by the academy and to fulfil these roles to the best of their ability;
- uphold the academy's rules for conduct, behaviour and dress as outlined in this agreement, the Code of Conduct and the Uniform Code;
- attend on every day of the academy year, and not leave the premises without permission during this time. Students must ensure that the academy is informed on every day of the absence and provide the academy with a written note from their parent or guardian giving the reason on the first day of their return. If attendance causes concern for any student, parents will be invited to a meeting and targets will be set. In extreme cases a medical note from a GP will be required to verify further absences. Note that holidays are not permitted during term time;
- ensure that they are punctual in their arrival at the academy. Poor punctuality and attendance may result in a student being required to make up time in the academy during the holiday;
- take part in all timetabled activities, including form tutor periods, assemblies, PTE lessons, sport/community activities and engineering lessons;
- spend between 8-10 hours per week on academy work at home, completing homework and coursework tasks and building a file of revision notes and complete all work assignments and hand them in by the deadline date;
- attend, if required by the Principal, 'whole academy' events, such as the awards presentation, sports day, open days, etc as shown on the academy calendar;

- give preference to playing for academy sports teams, if selected, over other arrangements including part-time jobs;
- realise that they should not be in possession of, nor should associate with, those who are openly in possession of drugs or other substances which cannot legally be bought by children of their age. Nor should any student misuse any drug or substance in a way which may harm either themselves or others. Breach of this rule will result in the use of the strongest of sanctions including permanent exclusion, and considered involvement of relevant statutory bodies such as the police.
- not tamper with health and safety equipment such as fire extinguishers/alarms and laboratory /workshop equipment that puts the lives of others at serious risk. Breach of this rule will result in the use of the strongest of sanctions which include permanent exclusion;
- that copying work from any source without giving proper credit to the author is theft and can often be identified by plagiarism software. A student must not copy the work of another person in either electronic or non-electronic form, or then present it as their own work. Any copying in examinations, or coursework that forms part of an examination, is a very serious matter. Breach of this rule will result in the strongest of sanctions, and that if the material is for examination purposes the examination bodies may disqualify the student from taking any public examination in the year of the offence.
- Respect academy property and report any damage immediately.
- Respect all staff and follow instructions without question.
- Treat fellow students with courtesy and respect and support each other by maintaining a calm and positive learning environment.

The commitment of parents

Parental support is vital in a child's transition from adolescence into adulthood. This agreement recognises the commitment of the academy to keep parents informed about their child's progress. In return parents agree to:

- support their child in all aspects of their academy life and in their commitment to meeting all of the points outlined in this Agreement, particularly with regard to attendance, punctuality and the meeting of deadlines;
- attend Parents' Evenings or other consultations relating to their child;
- read and sign their child's personal study file at least every week, both to maintain home-school communications and also to confirm that their child has been well organised and has worked diligently on all homework tasks set;
- telephone the academy to inform them of their child's sickness absence on the day that it first arises and send a signed letter explaining the absence on the first day of their return;
- support their child to undertake between 8-10 hours of homework per week.

Please indicate that both you and your child agree to the terms of the above agreement on the online Consent Section, when joining the academy. Agreement will be obtained every year in September for all students.