

Central Schools Trust



**INCORPORATING BALSALL COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND DAMSON WOOD NURSERY AND INFANT SCHOOL**



flourishing together

Home School Agreement

The Trust Aims

Our aim is to provide a safe, secure and caring learning environment for the children, in order to create a happy, friendly atmosphere, where they feel secure and relaxed thus allowing them to take on the challenges of learning. We endeavour to involve parents throughout their child's Trust life. Parents are encouraged to become part of the Trust community. We aim to work together with parents to promote lifelong education and development.

Aims and Principles of Parental Involvement

Genuine partnership between teachers and parents calls for:

- Respecting and supporting all parents as the primary educators of their children
- Valuing one another's different, but equally important, roles
- Listening to uncomfortable messages without defensiveness
- Establishing joint aims and jointly setting the agenda
- Putting time into developing the relationship

Parents can play many roles within the partnership - as co-educators of their children, as providers of additional support for the school, as decision-makers, and as an important part of the school's community.

Working and communicating together

Expectations: We all expect things of each other.

Children can expect:

- To feel valued and listened to
- To take responsibility for their actions
- To be consulted on their education and involved in decisions
- To be responsible for making sure they understand their homework task, taking it home and giving it in on time

Parents expect:

- To feel valued and welcomed by the school
- Information and guidance on supporting their children's learning
- Clear feedback on their children's progress
- Specific opportunities for familiarisation with the classroom routine
- To be informed of any recurring issues that arise during the school day which concern their child

The Trust expects:

- That at all times parents will behave towards teachers and other school staff in a polite and courteous manner, just as they themselves would expect to be treated
- Parents to support children in taking responsibility for their actions
- That children are supported at home in their homework by parents who:
 - provide a suitable, reasonably peaceful place where children can do their homework (whether independently or sharing with an adult)
 - make it clear to children that parents value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help children's learning
 - encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed their homework

- That parents make sure that children complete their homework
- That parents will help their children to organise themselves to work at home
- That parents will ensure that their children are appropriately dressed in school clothing and equipped for their various lessons including PE and Swimming
- That parents will be responsible for the prompt collection of their children after trips, extra-curricular activities, discos and for the supervision of their children on the school site outside school hours
- That children are always healthy and alert when they arrive at school in order that they can cope

Homework

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents/carers.

The Purpose of Homework

Homework has several purposes:

- to consolidate skills and understanding
- to extend school learning (by additional reading, use of parents' skills and knowledge and reference books for example)
- to develop the confidence and self-discipline in pupils that is needed to study on their own in order to prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

Key Considerations:

- To be effective, homework needs to be a part of a wider partnership between parents and the school
- It is an important part of the home school agreement
- It should consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- It is an opportunity to exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home
- It encourages pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own
- It prepares them for the requirements of secondary school

Attendance

School will:

- Take an attendance register twice daily and decide if any absences should be authorised or unauthorised
- Absences will not be authorised for non-exceptional events, for example, birthdays, shopping trips or holidays
- Notify you of any concerns about school attendance
- Only authorise absences in exceptional circumstances
- Offer someone to talk to about attendance concerns and what support may be available
- Refer concerns about attendance to Central Schools Attendance and Welfare Service Ltd (CSAWS), where appropriate

Parents will:

- Ensure children are well rested and ready to learn
- Ensure children arrive in school on time
- Make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours, where possible
- Not allow children absences for birthdays, shopping trips and holidays

- Contact the school on the first day of a child's absence and keep school informed on subsequent days of absence
- Talk to someone in school if they are concerned about their child's attendance
- Send a letter or e-mail on the child's return stating dates and reason for absence

Children's Well-being and Welfare

School will:

- Follow Child Protection procedures as per the CST's Child Protection and Safeguarding policies

Parents will:

- Report any concerns they have regarding a child's welfare to the Designated Safeguarding Lead

I have read the Home School Agreement and agree to support its contents.

Name of child: _____

Class: _____

Signed: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Date: _____

Please return to the School Office