

# **EASTFIELD INFANTS' & NURSERY SCHOOL**

## **HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

There are many ways in which you can help your child in school. We hope that by explaining the aims and values of the school it will help us to work together in partnership and enable your children to achieve their full potential. This agreement has been drawn up through consultation with parents, school staff and governors. All parents and children in school will be invited to sign the agreement.

### **OUR SCHOOL VALUES AND ATTITUDES**

To become a successful school community we feel that our code of values is extremely important. We aim to create a stimulating and caring environment in which children can succeed. We try to develop secure and sensitive relationships with the children so that they enjoy school, feel confident about their abilities, have high self-esteem and are well motivated. We try to help them to become tolerant, to share and to become aware of the meaning of justice, fairness and kindness.

We are committed to close liaison with parents and see parents and teachers as partners in contributing to their child's learning and hope that parents will come into school regularly throughout the time their children are with us.

### **STANDARDS OF EDUCATION**

All children have the right to a broad and balanced curriculum.

We aim to:

- \* Develop children's self esteem, confidence and independence, in a secure and stimulating environment;
- \* Develop enquiring minds, with the ability to question, debate and think rationally and independently;
- \* Enable children to read, write and communicate effectively;
- \* Enable children to use mathematics confidently and competently;
- \* Develop children's physical abilities and skills;
- \* Promote children's respect for spiritual, cultural and moral values, appreciation of religion and ways of life different from their own;
- \* Help children to understand the world in which we live and the ways we can work together;
- \* Help children to appreciate their own unique role in, and value to, the school;
- \* Make it clear that school can be an enjoyable and stimulating place;
- \* Develop children's ability to observe closely, be creative and develop aesthetic appreciation.

### **ATTENDANCE**

- \* Attendance at school is the shared responsibility of parents, school and the local education authority.

- \* There is a need to ensure children attend school regularly and arrive on time for the start of the school day. These are qualities appreciated by future employers.
- \* Schools now monitor unauthorised absences and so it is important that parents inform school whenever a child is absent either by telephoning, emailing or by sending a letter.
- \* Should attendance problems develop we would expect parents to help school staff and the Educational Welfare Service to overcome the difficulties.
- \* Children are required to attend school for the full 190 days in the school year. Any absence should be avoided whenever possible.
- \* Legally there is no entitlement for parents to take their child on holiday during term time. Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Leave of absence must be formally requested from, and agreed by the Head Teacher in advance of any absence.

## **DISCIPLINE**

Children learn most from the example of parents, teachers and other adults around them.

We use a positive approach to behaviour management in school and children are encouraged to be aware of the consequences of their actions and are helped to develop tolerance, co-operation and self-discipline. A system of rewards and sanctions is used to promote good behaviour. We value the support we receive from parents and guardians in ensuring that our expectations are met. In extreme cases parents will be invited to discuss any matter of unacceptable behaviour with the Head Teacher.

The school rules have been devised by children and we ask your co-operation in making your child aware of them.

The rules are:

- \* We are kind and polite to one another;
- \* We always listen carefully;
- \* We walk around school;
- \* We try hard;
- \* We take care of things.

## **HOMEWORK**

A weekly year group newsletter details topics and events that are coming up and gives suggestions for talking activities that will help to prepare children for these topics.

We encourage parents to sign the homework diary to show that they have worked with their children. Certificates are awarded to children who regularly complete homework tasks.

The Government recommends regular homework for all children from Year 1 upwards. As a school we have always encouraged parents to read and share a book with their child and to practise spellings and 'key' words in reading for ten minutes each day.

Numeracy is now to be included in set homework. Homework will be linked closely to the work children are doing in school and will support their learning.

## **INFORMATION SCHOOLS AND PARENTS WILL GIVE TO EACH OTHER**

We recognise the importance of good communications between school and home. Throughout the year the Head Teacher and teaching staff are available to meet with parents both formally and informally. Discussions can be held with teachers both at the beginning and end of the school day, enabling parents and teachers to express their immediate concerns regarding children's work or behaviour. Parent-teacher consultation days take place each term to review children's progress, set future targets and suggest activities which will help their child's learning. Annual reports on individual children's progress in all National Curriculum subjects are sent out to parents towards the end of the summer term with the opportunity to discuss the report with the class teacher. Regular newsletters informing parents of events, out of school visits and class topics are sent from school and can be found on the school website.

## **COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

The Head Teacher and Governing Body are committed to a policy of communication, openness and honesty with everyone connected with the school. Concerns raised by parents will be dealt with through informal discussions with the class teacher or Head Teacher. If these concerns cannot be resolved informally then, under the terms of the 1993 Education Reform Act, the Governing Body has set up a formal complaints procedure. This offers an accessible and clear route through which complaints may be pursued and hopefully resolved. Details are available at the school.

## **HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENT REVIEW**

This policy is reviewed every 3 years or whenever deemed necessary by the Head Teacher and Governors in the light of events and changes in the law and we would welcome comments for its development.

The policy was reviewed and the revisions adopted at a meeting of the Curriculum and Policy Committee on 11 November 2013.

*Original Signed by Carol Knowles: Filed in Governing Body Minute Book as appendix to minutes of meeting.*

Signed: .....  
Chair of Curriculum & Policy Committee  
Planned review date:- Spring 2017