



Home School Agreement Guidance

Approval Body:	MST Standards Committee
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Implementation Date:	February 2023
Review Date:	March 2024
Policy Version:	3

Version Control

Version	Reviewed	Changes since last version
1	March 2019	First Guidance issued
2	February 2021	Guidance reviewed. No changes required.
3	February 2023	Guidance reviewed. No changes required.

This policy has been adopted by the Mulberry Schools Trust “The Trust” and will be applied to all schools which belong to the Mulberry Schools Trust.

Rationale

Although Home School Agreements are no longer statutorily required, the Mulberry Schools Trust believes that meeting with parents or carers and their children before starting at a school to agree expectations is vital for a positive, rich working relationship. Therefore, the Trust requires Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) to develop a suitable home school agreement document, which is signed by families and the school.

Home School Agreement documents should be framed within the Trust’s ethos (as set down by the Trust in its aims and mission statement) and accommodate the general principles listed below. The document should set out both the school’s offer and the entitlement of its pupils to a high-quality experience as well as requiring families to support teachers in delivering this. Documents should:

- Be written in ‘plain English’ on no more than two sides of A4 paper
- Set out the curriculum offer and wider enriching experiences offered by the school
- Highlight how pupils’ achievement is supported through termly achievement reports and annual parent consultations
- Delineate basic rules of conduct and behaviour, setting out the rights as well as responsibilities of pupils to a positive and welcoming school environment for all learners
- Highlight basic requirements for equipment and uniform
- Set out methods of home / school communication in terms which encourage families to communicate with schools at all times
- Set expectations for attendance, punctuality and homework completion
- Set out how pupils and families can gain access to further support for learning

Home School Agreements should make sure parents and carers know where to find school policies and how they can seek further help from the school. Parents / carers and pupils should know that their future relationship with the school is one of partnership and so the agreement, whilst not being a legally enforceable contract, is a blueprint for mutually beneficial affiliation based on respect.