

## Home-School Agreement

### School Vision

Promoting excellence to enable all students to be happy and achieve their potential.

### School Ethos

Keswick School is a happy, caring, energetic and respectful learning environment. Staff, students and parents work together in partnership to achieve extraordinary outcomes in each moment of every ordinary day. Students are empowered to lead their own learning, develop resilience and channel their curiosity, enabling them to see limitless possibilities and fulfil their ambitions.

### School Aims

1. To maintain the highest expectations for all our students and seek excellence in everything we do.
2. To instil traditional values such as courtesy and consideration for others.
3. To develop every child's talents and interests, and broaden their horizons.
4. To provide outstanding academic, social, moral, spiritual and cultural education.
5. To maintain a varied and enriched curriculum to develop confident, creative, articulate and distinctive young people.
6. To prepare students to be independent, resilient and life-long learners.
7. To see learning through failure as essential for achieving success.
8. To develop local, regional, national and international partnerships and constantly look for opportunities to extend learning.
9. To encourage all parents to take an active interest in their child's education.
10. To send into society level headed and compassionate young people who are a credit to themselves and the school.

### Roles and Responsibilities

It is expected that students will:

- Attend school, be punctual and wear school uniform correctly;
- Be organised and have the appropriate equipment, including a planner, for all lessons;
- Do their best at all times, take pride in their work and value education at Keswick School;
- Show respect, care and consideration to others;
- Respect the school environment, equipment and others' property;
- Follow the school rules and expectations;
- Follow classroom procedures and do not disrupt the learning of other students;
- Listen attentively and follow the instructions given by staff and other adults;
- Use appropriate language;
- Tell the truth, accept responsibility and learn from your mistakes;
- Value other individuals and their contributions;
- Lead by example creating a good role model for younger students;
- Use IT responsibly, accepting that breaking the school rules will lead to serious consequences;

- Report to a teacher or other adult any bullying behaviour, including cyber bullying;
- Behave appropriately when outside school;
- Be an ambassador for the school.

It is expected that staff will:

- Ensure that all students receive a broad, balanced and stimulating curriculum at the appropriate level using suitable materials;
- Ensure that lesson objectives and work requirements are clearly set out and progress is monitored;
- Ensure that lessons start and end on time;
- Ensure that students are emotionally and physically safe in school;
- Make explicit, in a constructive and positive way, what behaviour is expected and what is unacceptable;
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour;
- Provide students with a good role model;
- Plan and deliver interesting lessons which engage and motivate students to achieve;
- Be enthusiastic and develop positive working relationships;
- Celebrate success in lessons, after school activities and assemblies;
- Communicate successes and concerns with parents;
- Mark or give feedback on work as soon as possible;
- Set homework appropriate for the age and abilities of each student;
- Eliminate or control hazards which may cause harm;
- Use a range of non-verbal and verbal cues to encourage good behaviour;
- Always take seriously any complaints of bullying or inappropriate behaviour;
- Use rewards and, where necessary, sanctions consistently.

It is expected that parents will:

- Ensure that their child attends school and arrives on time;
- Ensure that their child wears school uniform and has the correct equipment and a planner for all of their lessons;
- Contacts the school if their child is absent or late;
- Expect their child to behave appropriately whilst at school;
- Support the school if sanctions are applied for unacceptable behaviour;
- Inform school of any changes to their child's circumstances that may affect their child's learning;
- Behave responsibly whilst on school premises;
- Report any incidents of bullying, including cyber bullying, as soon as they are discovered;
- Encourage their child to achieve their best;
- Encourage their child to have high standards of behaviour in and out of school;
- Work with school staff to help their child accept responsibility for their behaviour and actions;
- Support their child's homework and other home-based learning activities;
- Support the school in its use of rewards and sanctions;
- Take some responsibility for the behaviour of their child;
- Discuss any issues of concern with the class teacher or Head of Year in a calm manner;
- Consider the implications of posting inappropriate or defamatory comments on social network sites and the detrimental effect this can have on individuals and the school as a whole;
- Support the school's approach to online safety which includes not uploading or posting to the internet any pictures, video or text that could upset, offend or threaten the safety of any member of the school community or bring the school into disrepute;
- Recognise the need for security and not create online media "on behalf" of the school without the Head teacher's permission.

## **Sanctions and Consequences**

Although Keswick School aims to focus on positives, there are unfortunately occasions when a tiny minority of students let themselves, the school and others down through unacceptable behaviour.

We want students to take responsibility for their behaviour. We will encourage students to do this through strategies like restorative justice which enable students to reflect on their behaviour and to make amends. This process does not, however, replace consequences. At our school, we know that consistency is essential for students to understand what is expected. It is vital that children learn that there are always consequences for unacceptable behaviour which undermine the positive atmosphere of our school community.

It is essential that students and parents are aware of the contents of the school Behaviour Policy. This outlines the expected behaviour and the sanctions and consequences that will be applied if behaviour falls below the required standards. The current Behaviour Policy can be found on the school website under 'Our School' and 'Policies'.

## **Attendance**

It is a statutory obligation for all children to receive a full-time education. It is essential that all parents with children at Keswick School ensure that their children receive a full-time education, keeping them away from school only for significant medical reasons or exceptional circumstances.

What students and parents can expect from the school:

- work closely with parents to resolve issues that prevent students attending school on time or regularly;
- work closely with the LA and others to ensure that each student receives their entitlement to full-time education;
- release all students from the classrooms at 3.30pm every day unless they have had a sanction imposed e.g. after-school detention.

What the school expects from parents:

- accept their responsibility to ensure that their child attends school on time (between 8.45am and 3.30pm) every day – arrival after 8.55am will be marked late; arrival after 9.15am is recorded as absent in accordance with the school's attendance procedures;
- notify the school if a different person is picking up their child for appointments;
- notify the school by letter or telephone by 10.00 a.m. if their child is not attending school on that day, giving the reason for absence;
- keep their child at home for at least 48 hours after the last episode of sickness/diarrhoea;
- arrange holidays during school holidays unless there is a genuine exceptional reason in accordance to the authorised absence regulations.

## School Uniform

Parents are expected to send their children into school correctly dressed. Please inform us by telephone or in writing if, for any reason, the appropriate school uniform cannot be worn.

BOYS	GIRLS
<b>Blazer (Bottle Green*)</b> with school badge	
<b>Tie (Maroon)</b> clip on only	
<b>Shirt (White)</b> Plain long sleeved	<b>Blouse (White)</b> Plain long sleeved shirt style (these must not be fitted fashion style blouses) <i>Summer term:</i> Plain short or long sleeved shirt ( <b>White</b> ) to be worn with tie.
	<b>Skirts (Mid Grey*)</b> Either A line with one pleat at the front or 2 box pleats front and back (the skirt should be no shorter than 10cm above the knee measured from the ground when kneeling)
	<b>Jumper (Bottle Green*)</b> V necked, woven with school badge <b><i>A jumper or blazer may be worn with a skirt.</i></b>
<b>Trousers (Black)</b> No cords or jeans, trousers must be full length	<b>Trousers (Black)</b> Straight or slight bootleg style – these must not be leggings, jeggings or tight fitting in any way, they should not be made of denim or denim look fabric and they should not have any embellishments and should be full length trousers <b><i>Trousers will only be allowed with the school blazer, not a jumper alone.</i></b>
<b>Socks (Dark colour)</b>	<b>Socks (Dark colour)</b> To be worn with trousers (no over-the-knee socks) <i>Summer term:</i> White ankle socks are not school uniform. However, should the weather take on a extreme temperatures a decision will be made whether these will be permitted.
	<b>Tights (Bottle Green*).</b> To be worn with skirts
<b>Shoes (Black)</b> Boys' shoes should be black polished (capable of taking polish; some are "self-polishing"; not suede or canvas). Shoes should not have trainer style stripes or markings down the side or have any sports tags anywhere on them. They should have a conventional sole and not a chunky trainer type. Please be aware that some shoe shops are selling trainer type shoes as "school shoes" – they are not suitable.	<b>Shoes (Black)</b> Girls' shoes should be sensible and offer appropriate protection to the foot; they <b>must have some form of tread or grip on the sole</b> and should be either flat or a heel no more than 3cm. They should be black and leather or "leather look" i.e. synthetic. They <b>must not be made of canvas or be any sort of trainer or plimsoll.</b>
<b>PE Kit:</b> Information available on the school website	
<b>Outer Garment:</b> This should be weatherproof and in a sensible style. Additional items of clothing are not allowed.	
<b>Jewellery and Make-Up:</b> Wide fashion belts are not allowed. Jewellery should be restricted to one pair of plain stud earrings for pierced ears and a wrist watch. No other jewellery is allowed. Conspicuous make-up is inappropriate at school. Please note acrylic nails and brightly coloured nail polish are also not allowed.	
<b>Hair:</b> For safety reasons hair must be tied back during certain activities e.g. PE, work in laboratories/workshops, etc. Hair styles must not follow extremes of fashion, including colours. Boys <b>MUST</b> be clean-shaven for school.	

**Parent Declaration**

I/We have read this Home-School agreement and understand the aims and values of Keswick School and the educational opportunities and experiences it will provide.

I/We understand and agree to all the rules, expectations and guidelines set out in this Home-School agreement and fully endorse them.

I/We understand the need to comply with the sections on 'what school expects of parents' and will support the school to ensure my/our child meets the requirements set out within this agreement.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/s)

Parent(s) of: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Declaration**

I have read, understand and accept all of the rules, expectations and guidelines set out in this Home-School agreement and will maintain the high standards and values expected from all the students who attend Keswick School.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Student) Date: \_\_\_\_\_