



BRANSTY SCHOOL

HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENT



Bransty School

Home-School Agreement

1. School Vision

Bransty School's vision is to create and maintain a learning environment that challenges and inspires our pupils and the wider community. We will encourage young people to be the best that they can be, aim high and to become happy, self-confident and responsible members of the wider community.

2. School Ethos

Bransty School is fully committed to every child receiving the very best education and to ensure that all pupils reach their full potential. In order to achieve this, teachers aim to deliver outstanding lessons and the school rightly has high expectations of its pupils. We expect all members of the school community to behave well, work hard, achieve high standards appropriate to their learning abilities, show respect for one another and to ensure that Bransty School is a positive and safe place to be.

For the school to achieve a positive ethos it is essential that all members of the school community work well alongside each other and develop positive working relationships (this includes all staff and other adults working in the school, pupils and parents/carers). Having a positive ethos helps to ensure good behaviour from pupils in school. Young people learn by example and as such, having high standards of expectations from all parties involved in their education will create adults with similarly high standards.

3. Introduction

This Home-School Agreement has been developed in consultation with pupils, parents, staff and governors and reflects key policies within the school. The Agreement is designed to support all members of the school community and to be clear about and fulfil their role in ensuring each young person can be 'the best they can'. It is assumed that all members of the school community agree with this document in its entirety, and will, if an issue arises, conform full to its expectations. Where this is not the case, parents/guardians must communicate this to the school, in writing, stating precisely the concern they have and stating their reason for not supporting the contents of this Agreement fully.

4. Behaviour

The commitment of staff, pupils and parents is vital in order to develop a positive whole school ethos which is built on a shared commitment to displaying courtesy, care, kindness and consideration at all times to all people within the school and wider community. The expectations of staff, pupils and parents/carers are outlined below. Further information on the behaviour standards expected from all members of the school community may be found in our Whole School Behaviour Policy, which is available on request.

4.1 What Pupils Can Expect from School

Pupils can expect staff and other adults working in the school to:

- treat them fairly with care, courtesy and kindness
- use a range of non-verbal and verbal cues to encourage good behaviour and limit inappropriate behaviour;
- be approachable and listen to them at appropriate times;
- always take seriously any complaints of bullying or inappropriate behaviour witnessed or reported to them;
- set high expectations, clear boundaries and regularly agree classroom and behaviour expectations;
- use rewards and, where necessary, sanctions consistently;
- model the behaviours they wish to see.

4.2 What School Expects from Pupils

School expects pupils to:

- wear full school uniform correctly;
- follow instructions given by staff and other adults without arguing;
- put up their hand to indicate that they wish to speak or answer in a way that allows others to share ideas and opinions;
- use appropriate language;
- follow classroom rules and procedures and not disrupt the learning of other pupils;
- tell the truth and learn from their mistakes;
- care for the classroom and resources, respecting others' property;
- lead by example creating a good role model for younger pupils in the school;
- accept responsibility for their behaviour;
- consider the needs of all the other people in the classroom;
- use ICT in accordance with school procedures;
- report to a teacher or other adult any bullying behaviour by others including bullying with the use of technology (cyber bullying);
- behave appropriately when outside school;
- be ambassadors for the school.

4.3 What School Expects from Parents/Carers

School expects parents/carers to:

- treat staff and other adults in the school with respect;
- treat other parents, pupils and visitors to the school with respect;
- behave responsibly whilst on school premises;
- ensure that their child arrives at school on time;
- ensure that their child is dressed appropriately, in school uniform with any necessary equipment, and has their full P.E. kit in school when required;
- ensure that their child attends school regularly and contacts the school in the event of an absence or lateness;
- encourage their child to have high standards of behaviour in and out of school;
- support the actions of the school if the school has to use reasonable sanctions to address their child's behaviour;
- work with school staff to help their child accept responsibility for their behaviour and actions;

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- support the sanction applied where a child has been unfair, unjust, physically violent or discriminatory, thus ensuring their child receives a clear and powerful message that this type of behaviour will not be tolerated at school or at home;
- inform the school of any concerns or problems that may affect the child's work or behaviour;
- 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 Headteacher in a calm and non-aggressive or threatening manner;
- share any concern about the way that their child has been treated, in a courteous and discrete manner (i.e. discussing the disagreement with the teacher out of earshot of the child) in the first instance with the class teacher;
- report any incidents of bullying including cyber bullying as soon as they are discovered so that the issue can be dealt with promptly by school staff;
- refrain from smoking on the school premises or around entrances/exits, especially at busy times before and after school
- refrain from using foul language in earshot of any young person at any time in or around the school premises
- refrain from bringing dogs/cats onto the school premises (regardless of their size or temperament) or stand with them close to the entrance gate at busy times before and after school.
- consider the implications of posting inappropriate or defamatory details on Social Network sites and the detrimental effect inappropriate comments can have on individuals and the school as a whole;
- comply with any sanctions which may be imposed as a result of non-compliance with this home-school agreement

4.4 What Parents/Carers Can Expect from Staff and other adults in the School

Parents/Carers can expect staff and other adults working in the school to:

- treat them with respect;
- set high standards of work and behaviour for all children in their care;
- deal promptly with any incidents of bullying regardless of whether their child is seen as either the bully or the victim;
- impose sanctions consistently in accordance with the Whole School Behaviour Policy and the school system;
- promote positive behaviour and consistently reward such behaviour in accordance with the Whole School Behaviour Policy and the school system;
- promote positive behaviour beyond the school gates and impose sanctions for inappropriate behaviour which reflects negatively on the school and its values;
- discuss their child's actions with them, give a warning and ensure that their child knows what the penalty will be should they continue to misbehave. All penalties will be carried out;
- let them know if there are any concerns about a child's work, attendance or behaviour.

5. Learning

Learning is the core purpose of the school. It is the aim of all members of staff and other adults to ensure the highest standards of progress and attainment are reached with each and every child. In order to achieve this, a strong link needs to be maintained between home and school and each child must be motivated towards learning

5.1 What Pupils can Expect from School

Pupils can expect school staff and other adults working in the school to:

- encourage a sense of belonging throughout the school community;
- arrive at lessons on time;
- have a well organised room;
- plan thoroughly for the long, medium and short term and deliver good to outstanding lessons which engage and motivate them to achieve;
- allocate sufficient time for each task;
- pace lessons appropriately taking into account the individual needs of each pupil;
- provide every child with equal access to the curriculum;
- set tasks according to the pupil's needs, abilities and interests, where appropriate;
- be enthusiastic and develop positive working relationships with pupils and their peers in their classes;
- celebrate the success of pupils in lessons, after school activities and assemblies;
- encourage all pupils to contribute to the work in hand;
- set and review individual targets and communicate these to the parents
- communicate both successes and concerns with parents;
- use assessment information to support pupils in their future learning;
- display their work;
- mark or give feedback on work as soon as possible;
- set homework appropriate for the age and abilities of each pupil;
- eliminate or control hazards which may cause them harm.

5.2 What School Expects from Pupils

School expects pupils to:

- arrive at lessons on time;
- enter the classrooms quietly;
- sit where they are told to sit by the teacher or any other member of the school staff;
- have equipment and books for lessons, including home learning logs;
- listen attentively to the teacher who will explain the lesson, what you are going to do, why and how;
- listen to others' ideas and work co-operatively;
- value other individuals and their contributions to lessons;
- complete homework or other activities as requested within the time limits set.

5.3 What School Expects from Parents/Carers

School expects parents/carers to:

- encourage their child to achieve their very best in school;
- encourage children to approach learning in school in an enthusiastic and motivated way;
- ensure children have the correct equipment for school at all times;
- ensure children have pieces of homework on the timetabled evenings;

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- help their child complete, thoroughly check and return homework on or before the deadline;
- read to and with their child on a very regular basis;
- support the child's homework and other home-based learning activities;
- share any issues about completing homework with the class teacher as soon as practicable;
- attend all meetings relevant to their child's education. Where this is not possible, to make suitable alternative arrangements with the school to keep up-to-date with their child's progress;
- read and respond to annual school reports.

5.4 What Parents/Carers Can Expect from Staff and other adults in the School

Parents/Carers can expect staff and other adults working in the school to:

- provide a balanced curriculum in order to meet the needs of each child;
- encourage their child to do their best at all times;
- keep them informed about general school matters, and their child's individual progress;

6. Attendance

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

6.1 What Pupils and Parents/Carers can Expect from School

School staff and other adults working in the school will:

- work closely with parents to resolve issues that prevent pupils attending school on time or regularly;
- work closely with the LA and others to ensure that each pupil receives their entitlement to full-time education;
- release all pupils from the classrooms at 3.15pm every day. Pupils will generally be dismissed at 3.15pm, however they will not leave beyond 3.20pm.

6.2 What School Expects from Parents/Carers

School expects parents/carers to:

- accept their responsibility to ensure that their child attends school on time (between 8.50am and 3.15pm) every day – arrival after 9.10am will be marked late; arrival after 9.30am is recorded as absent in accordance with the school's attendance procedures;
- be ready to collect their child at 3.15pm
- notify the school if they will be late collecting their child from school, giving an approximate time of arrival;
- notify the school if a different person is picking up their child at the end of the school day;
- 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 – any absence within the first two weeks of the autumn term or within weeks where tests/examinations are programmed **will not** be authorised by the school.

7. Communication

Good and effective communication between home and school is paramount in ensuring each child receives an effective education. Bransty School prides itself on being open, friendly and welcoming, whilst consistently sharing information with parents/carers on issues concerning their child. Whenever there is a concern either from the school or home, this should be shared at the earliest opportunity, which ensures that members of the school community can be effective in supporting each child's individual needs and education.

7.1 School will provide parents with:

- a dedicated website which contains accurate information linked to areas of school life

<http://vle.bransty.cumbria.sch.uk>

- a School Newsletter with appropriate information (dates, events and activities) at the following times:

every Friday

- a year group newsletter/information sheet sharing key information relating to learning topics and homework expectations for the term during the first week of each term;
- regular letters that share accurate information in a timely manner. Parents are requested to share one or more email addresses in which they would like to receive any 'mail shot';
- 3 parent/teacher meetings per year to discuss their child's progress with their child's class teacher;
- a range of assessment reports;
- a prompt response to any written concern i.e. within two working days. In the first instance, this may be a holding response until such time as a more comprehensive response can be formulated;
- a time to meet the appropriate member of staff;
- a formal opportunity to comment on the quality of service your children and you receive. Parents also receive a detailed breakdown of the final outcome of the annual parent questionnaire.

7.2 Parents/carers will:

- contact the school immediately when a concern arises, preferably in writing;
- contact the school after a child's absence to collect any correspondence which might have been missed;
- read all appropriate correspondence carefully and take action where necessary e.g. booking performance tickets, parent teacher meetings, making payments for visits etc.;
- complete the Annual Parent Feedback Form;
- attend all meetings relevant to their child's education.

Head Teacher's Signature:

Date:

Parent Signature:

Date:

Pupil Signature (where appropriate):

Date:

School Rules

Be.....

Respect each other, our community and our school

Approachable and honest

Nice and helpful - kind hands and feet

Smart and positive

Try your best

You are **Bransty** be proud!

GIVE RESPECT, GAIN RESPECT

School Uniform

Bransty School expects all pupils to wear the Bransty School uniform at all times during the school year. The uniform has been kept simple so that it is easy to find and buy at a number of local outlets and to keep the cost of uniform to the minimum. Parents are expected to send their children into school correctly dressed and we ask that you inform us by telephone or in writing if, for any reason, the appropriate school uniform cannot be worn.

BOYS – Uniform	GIRLS - Uniform
Black trousers	Black skirt/trousers
Black or gold polo shirt/cotton shirt	Black or gold polo shirt/cotton shirt Lemon summer dress
Black or gold sweatshirt or hoody with school logo	Black or gold sweatshirt or hoody with school logo Black or gold cardigan with school logo
Black shoes or black trainers (for this year we will accept designer logo trainers)	Black shoes or black trainers (No heels higher than 4cm)
PE Kit	PE Kit
Black shorts / Black tracksuit bottoms	Black shorts / Black tracksuit bottoms
Gold t-shirt	Gold t-shirt
Trainers/pumps for indoor use	Trainers/pumps for indoor use
Football boots/trainers for outdoor use	Football boots/trainers for outdoor use
PE Tracksuit (optional)	PE Tracksuit (optional)

Items such as school sweatshirts with the school logo can be purchased through the school office/or Whitehaven Embroidery in Whitehaven town centre.

The school office also sells other items such as fleeces, book bags, PE bags etc. the costs for which are available on request.

Jewellery

Bransty School has a no jewellery policy.

Parents who wish their child to wear jewellery in keeping with their religion/ethnicity should contact the school direct to discuss the individual requirements.

Watches must be removed for PE/games lessons.

Do not allow your child to have pierced ears if they are unable to take them out and put them in easily.

Only have your child's ears pierced at the beginning of the summer holidays so they do not miss any PE lessons.