



 **Home School Agreement**

‘Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day’

Reviewed By	Ellen Kennedy	Policy Owner	December 2019
Approved by	Cate Gregory	Headteacher	December 2019
Ratified by	Peter Gould	Governor	January 2020
NEXT REVIEW			January 2022

At Shirley Infant School we believe that children achieve best when there is an open and supportive partnership between pupils, parents, staff and governors. Everyone involved in working in the school community has rights and responsibilities which contribute to happy and successful school experiences for all.

This Home/School Agreement details the rights children and parents have and what they can expect from school. Every child has rights (UNICEF, Article 1), no child is an exception to these rights (UNICEF, Article 2). The best interest of the child must be a top priority in all actions concerning children (UNICEF, Article 3) and all rights should not be taken away.

Rights Respecting School

“Rights” are things every child should have or be able to do. All children have the same rights. These rights are listed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Each child has a right to

- receive a broad and balanced education with challenging opportunities which allow all children to achieve to their fullest potential (UNICEF, Article 28 & 31)
- be valued, listened to and respected as an individual (UNICEF, Article 8)
- receive additional support from school academically, emotionally and socially (UNICEF, Article 12, 28 & 29)
- a safe and welcoming environment in which they feel happy (UNICEF, Article 24 & 32)
- an education that includes the development of moral and spiritual values (UNICEF, Article 12, 14 & 28)
- care for their physical wellbeing while they are in school (UNICEF, Article 24 & 32)

We encourage the children and adults at Shirley Infant School to respect their rights and the rights of those around them. We hope this helps the children to understand that as you grow, you have more responsibility to make choices and exercise your rights contribute.

Children can respect their rights through many ways:

For example: Children have the right to be valued, listened to and respected as an individual (UNICEF, Article 8).

We respect this right by listening when people speak. We respect this right by not talking over people when they speak.

Each child has a responsibility to (increasingly, according to their age)

- participate positively in school activities and not to prevent others from learning
- be kind, helpful and polite and to treat others as they would like to be treated
- show respect for all pupils, teachers and all other adults working with them in school

As parents and carers you have a right to

- know that your child will be kept safe in school
- be kept informed of your child's progress, achievements and any areas of difficulty
- have access to teachers and teaching assistants in order to discuss concerns or questions
- receive from the school any help and guidance which will enable you to support your child
- regular parents evenings, pupil progress drop in sessions and an annual report

As a school we will respect the rights of parents and carers.

For example: Parents and carers have the right to be kept informed of your child's progress, achievements and any areas of difficulty. As a school we will respect this right by providing two parents evenings (one in Autumn and one in Spring). We respect this right by offering opportunities to discuss concerns and questions through informal conversations during drop off or pick up or additional times to talk at a time that suits you and the class teacher.

As parents and carers you have a responsibility to follow what was agreed in the home school policy you signed when your child started in Year R

- ensure your routines support your child to be ready to learn when they come in to school
- Provide appropriate uniform/footwear and resources for the school day. This includes appropriate clothing for all weathers, a P.E. kit and a water bottle every day
- ensure that your child attends school, recognising the link between attendance and achievement
- inform the school if your child is absent
- ensure that your child is punctual in order to maximise learning time in school
- support the school's management of behaviour
- attend parents' evenings and other meetings at the request of the teacher
- support your child's learning at home with guidance from school
This will include, for example, reading with your child in all year groups; practising phonic sounds in Year R; reading words in Year 1; spellings in Year 2
- Ensure that when using social networking sites you refrain from commenting on the school, staff, pupils and families. Parents should feel able to refer any comments of concern to the Headteacher or a school governor in confidence. Please be aware that any comments that are made on Shirley School year group Facebook pages that are considered inappropriate or detrimental to the school or staff members reputations will be removed promptly.

We offer a wide range of support throughout a child's time with us, from Year group curriculum workshops for each year group, to tailored support to help children who have struggled with some areas of learning. Some of these sessions will involve a parent or carer being present, and we would highly recommend that you do attend any suggested sessions, for the benefit of your child's learning and development. The curriculum changes regularly, and our workshops are our best way of helping you understand what is expected of your child and how you can best help them.

Teachers and teaching assistants have a right to

- teach effectively without undue disruption caused by poor behaviour

- be treated respectfully by pupils and parents

The school's responsibilities are to

- provide a broad and balanced curriculum with challenging opportunities for children matched to individual needs
- respect children as individuals, taking time to listen, encourage them in their learning, support them in their difficulties, and praise them in their successes
- provide excellent role models in all aspects of conduct and behaviour
- keep parents and carers informed of their child's progress, achievements and to discuss any areas of difficulty as early as possible
- be available to talk with parents about concerns they may have
- provide guidance with regard to work that is to be completed at home
- have agreed policies for managing behaviour
- promote the development of moral and spiritual values
- care for children's physical and emotional wellbeing while they are in school
- teach the British Values