



## HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT 2023

At Willow Brook School we believe that pupils achieve most when children, parents, carers and staff work together with respect, positivity and shared determination towards the agreed aims of the school. In a strong, family-oriented community, our common aim is to support each child's progress and potential. The purpose of our updated Home School Agreement is to outline what is expected from pupils, parents, carers and the school so that we achieve the very best outcomes and that the primary school experience is a happy and successful foundation that inspires lifelong learning.

Commented [CB1]: a couple of rows down you also mention carers, so possibly include here as well?

### ***At Willow Brook School our aims are embodied in our ethos:***

- **CARE** We aim to foster a climate of consideration and respect, where children and their adult role models care for each other and environment they share.
- **CONFIDENCE** We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and a close-knit environment that inspires a love of learning and provides a range of experiences to build knowledge and confidence both in and out of the classroom.
- **COMMUNITY** We aim to reflect and uphold the shared values and diversity of our community so that children explore and develop the understanding, tolerance and respect that enables them to grow into positive citizens. We aim to foster effective links between home, school and the wider community so that children develop a sense of belonging.
- **COMMITMENT** We aim to encourage resilience and determination through challenge and high expectation. We would like our children to find the satisfaction of mastering goals and finding independence, as well as understanding that new skills often require practice and patience.
- **CREATIVITY** We aim to develop learners who see the value in creativity – who learn to appreciate how problem solving, critical thinking, exploration, aesthetics and collaboration stimulates essential human development and a sense of wellbeing.

In understanding our aims and the school's responsibilities, we trust that parents and carers will be effective partners in their child's education.

## Our Ethos and Rules

Our aims lead quite neatly to six simple rules. We know that young children need reminders as they learn how to interact and put shared expectations into practice, so our 5 C's are displayed prominently around the school and rules are discussed regularly so that they remind and guide us as we work and play together.

The Rule	The Reason
<b>We know when to speak and when to listen</b>	...so we can learn from one another
<b>We help and encourage each other</b>	...so we can make our school a safe and happy place
<b>Everyone participates and cooperates</b>	...to help everyone achieve their potential
<b>We complete tasks and always try our best</b>	...so we can be proud of ourselves, our learning and the progress we make
<b>We solve our problems and settle disagreements by talking to each other about them</b>	...so we do not hurt each other
<b>We are honest, tell the truth and are kind to each other</b>	...so we can trust and respect each other
<b>We look after our school and our belongings</b>	...so we have a pleasant and motivating place to learn

**Commented [CB2]:** I think this section then needs a sentence or two to introduce it - you have explained the 6 rules above but not what these sections represent.

## Our Shared Agreement

To support our rules and ensure that our 5 C's are at the heart of our shared practice, our agreement details the positive steps we can take to forge strong and supportive working relationship. These are divided into key areas so that their relevance is clear.

### Ethos and Values

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I will do my best to work and play as a part of the Willow Brook community</li> <li>I will think about the ethos and rules of the school and do my best to act on them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the ethos of the school and reinforce our rules with my child</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that pupils and parents/carers understand the values of the school and promote them regularly in school</li> </ul>

**Commented [CB3]:** Changed this so it is consistent in style with the boxes below which are written from the perspective of the parent.

### Learning

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I will take responsibility for my own learning</li> <li>I will take part in class</li> <li>I will try my best at school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage a positive attitude towards my child's education and the school</li> <li>Attend parents evening meetings and other events that inform me of my child's progress and learning journey</li> <li>Ensure my child participates actively in school life and persevere</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a rich, stimulating, safe environment in which there is an opportunity for all to achieve and develop their full potential</li> <li>Give access to a broad and balanced creative curriculum, helping pupils acquire the skills they need for the future with appropriate support</li> <li>Encourage children to become independent, resilient learners</li> <li>Keep parents/carers informed of children's progress in termly meetings</li> <li>Welcome parents and carers if they are able to contribute to the school's broader curriculum</li> </ul>

## Home Learning

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I will do my home learning to the best of my ability</li> <li>I will complete my homework and hand it in on time</li> <li>I will look after any school resources that I take home and return them to school as and when required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support my child with their home learning and extended learning opportunities, encouraging them to do their best</li> <li>Provide opportunities for my child to read every day and add comments to their reading record to encourage progress</li> <li>Ensure that home learning is completed on time</li> <li>Ensure that school books are looked after at home and returned to school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set appropriate home learning for all pupils</li> <li>Provide parents/carers with sufficient information to enable them to support their children with reading and other set tasks</li> </ul>

**Commented [CB5]:** Should there be something about providing feedback on the home learning to the pupil? I don't want to commit teachers to a fixed timescale for this, but if we are saying we expect pupils to complete and hand it in on time, it feels like the quid pro quo is that the teacher will look at it and feedback on it.

**Commented [CB4]:** Is this the pupil to complete or the parent/carer to complete? it isn't clear as currently drafted

## Responsibility, Equality and Fairness

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I will take responsibility for making the right choices</li> <li>I will treat all children fairly and respect differences in our school community</li> <li>I will work to understand why some children find it more difficult to behave, learn, or respond in the same way as I do</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage my child to be independent</li> <li>Encourage my child to take responsibility for their belongings</li> <li>Encourage my child to appreciate other's points of view and unique situations and to show tolerance and patience when it is required</li> <li>Be a positive example in the way they treat others in the school community so that children learn about fairness and respect</li> <li>Work positively with the school as they follow procedure to investigate and respond to incidents that require further action</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure equality of opportunity for all</li> <li>Treat all members of the school community equally and without favouritism</li> <li>Provide guidance and support to all children to help them understand and learn to interact with children who find it difficult to behave or who learn and respond in unique ways</li> <li>Follow policy and guidance to respond to incidents that require intervention, recognising and carrying out any work with groups or individuals promptly</li> </ul>

**Commented [CB6]:** Do we want to go further here and say we expect parents to treat others in the school community (pupils, staff, other parents) fairly and with respect for differences in that community? ie, setting a good example at home for their children?

## Communication and Concerns

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I will communicate with other children and teachers to the best of my ability and raise any questions that I have with respect</li> <li>• I will speak to a teacher or a trusted adult if I am worried about something at home or at school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek answers to questions using the website and written newsletters from the school before contacting the school with questions</li> <li>• Raise any concerns appropriately</li> <li>• Let the school know of any concerns or problems which might affect your child's learning or behaviour as soon as they arise</li> <li>• If a problem occurs which involves another child's behaviour, including towards your child, contact the school rather than approaching the child directly or discussing the matter with other parents or on social media</li> <li>• Keep all shared concerns confidential in order to allow the school to address them correctly</li> <li>• Be mindful of a teacher's limited time when contacting the school</li> <li>• Understand that decisions are made for the benefit and wellbeing of the whole school community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain appropriate channels of communication with all parents and carers</li> <li>• Communicate regularly to inform parents and carers about their child's progress, attendance and welfare</li> <li>• Keep parents and carers informed of the learning and activities of the school through newsletters and website articles</li> <li>• Share information relating to the school to parents and carers in an appropriate and fair manner</li> <li>• Provide clear guidance to parents, carers and the wider community about how, when and with whom to ask questions, make comments or raise concerns</li> <li>• Acknowledge, investigate and respond to any concern and then feedback to the parent/carer within an agreed reasonable time frame</li> <li>• Treat all concerns confidentially in accordance with our policies</li> </ul>

## Attendance

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I will be determined to attend school regularly and do my best to be helpful so that my parents and carers can bring me to school on time</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Make sure my child attends regularly on time, properly rested, equipped and wearing the correct school uniform</li><li>Collect my child on time from all school activities</li><li>Promptly notify the school on the first day of a child's absence and each day thereafter</li><li>Ensure up to date contact details and medical requirements are communicated</li><li>Keep medical appointments during school hours to a minimum</li><li>Avoid taking holidays during term time</li><li>Be supportive of the school's procedures for ensuring good attendance</li><li>Attend any meeting at the school which you are specifically requested to attend (e.g. related to absence or behaviour)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Keep accurate records of attendance and punctuality</li><li>Keep parents informed of any attendance concerns</li><li>Address problems of persistent absence and on-going lateness to ensure that it does not negatively impact any pupil's learning</li></ul>

## Rules and Policies

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>I will observe the rules of the school and accept the consequences when I go against what is expected of me</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Work with the school to achieve its aims and support its policies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Care for pupils' safety and wellbeing by observing, listening and responding fairly</li><li>Explain key policies and actions to parents/carers when necessary or appropriate</li><li>Ensure that school policies are regularly reviewed and available on the school website</li></ul>

## Summary

As a Pupil	Parents and Carers will	The School will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I will be respectful to other children, staff, visitors and members of the community</li><li>• I will be kind to children in all year groups and will find an adult in school if I see someone is unkind</li><li>• I will wear my school uniform with pride</li><li>• I will know when to speak and when to listen</li><li>• I will tell an adult if I am worried or have a problem</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Treat all school staff with respect</li><li>• Abide by the guidance given by the school</li><li>• Be a positive role model for every child, especially when on school premises or at school events/trips</li><li>• Encourage your child to be resilient, positive and proactive in responding to friendship issues so that they gain confidence and understanding</li><li>• Be supportive of school in front of your child, in the local community and on social media</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure that staff always act as positive role models</li><li>• Encourage parents and carers to feel involved in school life</li><li>• Treat behaviour and safety issues seriously</li><li>• Encourage children to learn about mutual respect and treat each other with care, kindness and tolerance</li><li>• Notify and involve parents of any behaviour issues as appropriate</li><li>• Treat any incidents of bullying and discrimination seriously and help children to understand and learn from their words and actions</li></ul>

**Commented [CB7]:** There are good points in this section but they seem to replicate key ones from the earlier sections - if this is deliberate perhaps make it clear this is a summary or overall round-up?