

## THE FOREST SCHOOL

<b>POLICY TITLE</b>	Partnership with Parents Policy
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY</b>	Assistant Head Parental Engagement

### WHO IS GOVERNED BY THIS POLICY

Staff and Parents

### POINT (S) OF CONTACT

Assistant Head and Community Leaders

### LINKS TO THE FOLLOWING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Rewards and Praise, Consequences Policy, Complaints Policy

### MAIN ECM OUTCOMES (EVERY CHILD MATTERS)

Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution

### ACCOMPANYING PAPERWORK

This policy recognises and supports the 'Forest School Home-School Agreement'.

### SCOPE

This procedure sets out the commitment from The Forest School to:

- 1.1 Implement its 'Partnership with Parents' Policy to encourage a positive attitude to learning and to ensure that high standards of achievement and behaviour are maintained.
- 1.2 Promote positive relationships with our stakeholders through ensuring effective communication at all levels.

### AIMS

The Forest School aims to ensure that:

- 2.1 Pupils have high expectations of themselves and the school. Parents and carers should have opportunities to recognise and support this aim through direct involvement with the school and by creating an atmosphere at home that supports it.

- 2.2 Effort and achievement are recognised and that parents and carers are made aware of expectations, achievement, under achievement and areas where the students are not being challenged by the work being set.
- 2.3 Pupils are happy, safe and able to achieve their potential free of exposure to harm, discrimination or abuse. Parents and carers are consulted where issues may affect a student's continued progress or welfare.
- 2.4 Parents and carers are informed of a pupil's progress and conduct so that any problems that may have arisen are addressed in a timely manner and the required action can be taken to introduce effective solutions.
- 2.5 Complaints and concerns from parents and carers are dealt with promptly and efficiently (Refer to Complaints Policy and Procedure).
- 2.6 Parents and carers are provided with clear guidelines on how they can support their child's learning at school and are encouraged to provide comments on their child's ability and attitude to learning at home.
- 2.7 Pupils and their parents and carers are provided with adequate information about school targets, events and policies to enable them to engage fully with the school in developing pupils into capable and responsible individuals.
- 2.8 Confidential information is handled sensitively and in accordance with the law and in a manner that recognises that the child's welfare is the primary concern.
- 2.9 It develops relationships with parents and carers that are supportive to the child's learning and the aims of this procedure.
- 2.10 Its 'Partnership with Parents' policy is sufficient to meet the requirements of the LPPA (Leading Parent Partnership Award)

## **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this procedure are to deliver the requirements of the 'Partnership with Parents' policy and to realise its aims in a clearly defined, measurable, manner.

The objectives are as follows:

- 3.1 To review and publish annually 'The Forest School-Home Agreement', to ensure that it remains an effective tool in developing and maintaining strong, effective, relationships between home and school.
- 3.2 To continue to provide opportunities for parents and carers to discuss the pupils' progress or concerns with appropriate members of staff either at scheduled events (e.g. Parents Evenings, Academic Review Days) or on an 'as required' basis.
- 3.3 To continue to provide the opportunity for parent/carers to discuss issues of importance in maintaining effective relationships. This is implemented by the bi-monthly Parents Forum and by direct contact between parents/carers and members of staff.
- 3.4 To publish rules and codes of conduct, including sanctions and disciplinary actions, so that parents/carers are aware of the rules that apply to their

children and to enable them to be supportive of the school's aim of providing a safe atmosphere that encourages learning.

- 3.5 To continue to develop and promote the school's Rewards and Praise Policy and Procedures, so that parents/carers are aware of the means by which the school recognises and celebrates achievement.
- 3.6 To use standard letters, processes and procedures, where possible, to ensure uniformity of approach and to make it clear to parents/carers, from the outset, how issues will be dealt with.
- 3.7 To keep adequate records of meetings and discussions with parents/carers so that it is demonstrable that issues have been dealt with fairly and in accordance with The Forest School's policies and procedures and in accordance with the law.
- 3.8 To involve parents/carers in celebrating the work of pupils and staff by holding and promoting regular events e.g. Science is Fun evening; Christmas Concert etc.
- 3.9 To inform parents of developments in the school curriculum by holding Information Evenings across both key stages.

## **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

The procedures will be implemented, reviewed and managed by the following management bodies:

- 4.1 The Governing Body will agree and formally accept the 'Partnership with Parents' policy and will implement a strategy for its implementation and review.
- 4.2 The Senior Leadership Team will ensure that relevant persons are made aware of the policy and are briefed on its implications and implementation.
- 4.3 The Headteacher will provide adequate resources and time to allow the policy to be implemented, and reviewed, effectively.
- 4.4 The Headteacher will appoint a senior member of staff as a point of reference for the implementation of this policy and will ensure that they are suitably knowledgeable (or trained) to act as an advisor in its implementation and review.
- 4.5 The Governing Body will set a date for the audit, review and revision of the 'Partnership with Parents' policy.
- 4.6 The Governing Body through its visits and involvement with the school will monitor the effectiveness of the policy to ensure that positive relationships are maintained with parents and carers.

## **LINKS**

This policy has a strong link to the existing 'Forest School Home-School Agreement' which it supports. Many of its aims and objectives can be satisfied by the effective implementation of the Home-School Agreement.

With issues concerning complaints or issues of concern with parents and carers, the school's 'Complaints Policy and Procedure' should be referenced.

There are also strong links to the school's Consequences Policy and Rewards and Praise Policy.

## **MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW**

The success of a policy that involves a broad spectrum of parents, carers, staff and pupils is difficult to monitor effectively; monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness should be addressed by a regular review of the objectives and the methods used to achieve them.

The evaluation of the effectiveness of the policy with regard to the creation of a positive culture between home and school is a subjective one and should be assessed by gathering opinions from staff and parents. The Headteacher's assessment of changes in the relationship between home and school should be brought to the attention of the Governors.

The results of surveys, and specific issues that arise, will be reviewed against the requirements of this policy and, if required, the objectives will be revised.

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## **The Forest School Home School Agreement**

The Forest School serves the local community and welcomes boys who come here, whatever their background and culture.

We are committed to providing an education of the highest quality, in a happy, orderly, safe and stimulating environment.

We believe it is important to work in partnership with parents and pupils, to encourage a positive attitude to learning, to raise pupils' standards of achievement and to set high standards of behaviour, preparing pupils for life in a diverse society.

### **The School**

The school will do its utmost to:

- Ensure that its aims and expectations are a day to day reality.
- Care for your son's safety and happiness and reward him for his effort and achievements.
- Keep you regularly informed and consulted about school matters: about your son's progress and welfare in particular; what your son will be learning and how you can support this at home.
- Contact you promptly and work with you to solve any problems that could harm your son's progress at school.
- Respond to concerns and/or complaints promptly and fairly.
- Provide a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum to meet the individual needs of each pupil and enable him to achieve his potential.
- Establish clear expectations and procedures for the setting, completing and marking of work including homework.
- Provide a wide range of opportunities for your son to succeed and to celebrate his success.
- Involve your son in a wide range of extra curricular activities.
- Encourage your son in his development to become a responsible and valued member of the school community.
- make the school a place where everyone feels welcomed and valued and safe.

Signed: ..... on behalf of the school    Date: .....

### **Parents/Guardians**

I/We will do my/our utmost to:

- See that my/our son attends school every day, on time, properly equipped and that his appearance will be in accordance with the school's expectations.
- Keep the school informed of any concerns or problems which might affect my/our son's work, behaviour or appearance.
- Encourage and support my/our son in homework and other opportunities for learning.
- Attend parent consultation evenings, and discussions, with my/our son to work with the school to ensure his appropriate progress.
- Support the school's policies and expectations, especially regarding behaviour, bullying and appearance.
- Encourage my/our son to respect people and value the differences between them.
- Encourage my/our son to have respect for other people and for the school's and other people's well-being and property.

Signed: ...../..... Date: .....

Pupils Pupil's name: ..... Tutor Group: .....

### **Pupils**

I will do my utmost to:

- Attend school every day on time and maintain my appearance in accordance with the school's expectations, wearing the school uniform smartly when coming to school, going home from school and in school.
- Bring all the equipment that I need each day.
- Take responsibility for my classwork, homework, conduct and effort both in and out of school, especially when in uniform.
- Participate as fully as I can in all of the opportunities available to me.
- Adhere to the school's code of conduct/rules and behaviour in a responsible and considerate way at all times.
- Be polite, helpful and supportive of others, respecting their rights and feelings.
- Promote good relations between different groups within the school and in the community.
- Respect and take good care of the school's and other people's property.

Signed: ..... Date: .....