



# Home-School Agreement and Attendance

## Vision Statement

We are a warm and welcoming, inclusive school at the heart of a vibrant community. We strive to provide inspirational learning and teaching so that every child can achieve their best.

In partnership with our parents and the community, we aim to develop children who are passionate about learning and conduct themselves responsibly in the world; a community where all children will be challenged in their thinking, will achieve and progress by attending school every day and strive to become lifelong learners.

This can be done most effectively when all staff, parents and children understand their responsibilities and work together towards the same goals, as detailed in our home/school agreement.

## Together we learn

We all agree to live by our school values of:

 ***Honesty***

 ***Respect***

 ***Support***

 ***Co-operation***

# School

## The Learning Environment

Our school will:

- Provide your child with a high standard of education; within a creative, fun and balanced curriculum.
- Ensure that our learning environment is stimulating and challenging.
- Provide intervention and learning support, as deemed necessary.
- Support and celebrate your child's learning and personal achievements.
- Provide the scaffolding needed to enable your child to achieve and progress.
- Care for your child's safety and well-being.

## A Healthy, Happy Community

Our school will:

- Teach your child to develop a positive attitude to one another; regardless of gender, race, culture, belief, values, age and need.
- Encourage your child to become an active member within our community and help them to see the impact they can have on the world around them.
- Encourage and support your family to ensure excellent attendance in order to make best progress.
- Regularly meet with you to communicate the progress of your child, celebrating their strengths and explaining how we can support them in their areas for development.
- Provide information to you about our school; including dates of events, relevant policies, meetings, workshops, activities, newsletters and open days. These are shared face-to-face, via ParentMail and on the school website.
- Be very happy to welcome you if you would like to contribute to our school's broader curriculum. We recognise that the community of Bridgewater holds a wealth of talent, experience, diversity and enthusiasm that our school could benefit richly from.

## Homework

The school will:

- Set appropriate homework to extend the curriculum and provide the opportunity for independent learning.
- Provide information and helpful training sessions for you that will give you confidence to support your child.

## **Parents/Carers**

### **The Learning Environment**

As a Parent/Carer I will:

- Make sure my child arrives at school from 8.45 am to 9.00 am at the latest, prepared to start learning and ensure that my child is collected from school at 3.15 pm.
- Ensure that my child is wearing named school uniform or other suitable named clothing and their PE kit will be brought into school on the appropriate day or at the beginning of each week. I understand that earrings are not allowed to be worn in school.
- Read all information sent home as this gives me important details of relevant policies, meetings, workshops, activities, newsletters and open days.
- Do my very best to support learning at home for my child.
- Work with the school to support my child and communicate openly in an environment of trust.

### **Healthy, Happy Community**

As a Parent/Carer I will:

- Bring my child into school every day for their learning and support the school in creating an ethos in which good attendance (of at least 96%) and punctuality are recognised as the norm and seen to be valued by school and parents in partnership with each other.
- Let the school know of any concerns or worries that may be affecting my child's learning, behaviour or ability to do homework, as this can then be resolved quickly.
- Have a positive attitude to others, regardless of gender, race, culture, belief, values, age and need.
- Support the school by encouraging my child to develop a positive attitude towards diversity in line with the school's zero tolerance policy on discrimination and bullying.
- Attend meetings with my child's teacher and other staff, aiming to be positive and productive, working towards moving my child on in their learning.
- Support and work with you to ensure that the behaviour management policies of the school are maintained, particularly with my child.
- Encourage a positive attitude towards my child's education and our school. If I have any concerns, I will come and discuss them in order to resolve any issues
- Not make negative comments about the school or members of the school community on social media sites, but bring my concerns to the relevant people.
- Supporting your child's learning by making sure that homework tasks are completed and returned on time.

## **Pupils**

### **I will:**

- Follow the school rules each day.
- Respect other children's culture, race, feelings, beliefs and values.
- Accept responsibility for the things that I do.
- Tell a member of staff if I am worried or unhappy.
- Be responsible for my school and home work.
- Ask for help if I need it and try my best in all that I do.
- Be kind and speak politely to everyone in school.
- Take good care of the building, equipment and school grounds.
- Behave in a safe way.
- Be helpful.



## Attendance at Bridgewater Primary School

### Our joint commitment to our children

Regular and punctual school attendance is vital. Pupils need to attend school regularly if they are to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them by law. Children who are persistently late or absent soon fall behind with their learning. Children who are absent from school frequently develop large gaps in their learning, which will impact on their progress and their ability to meet age-related learning expectations. **A child whose attendance drops to 90% each year will, over their time at primary school, have missed two whole terms of learning.**

Parents/carers hold the legal responsibility for ensuring their child's good attendance. The Headteacher and Governors at our school work together with other professionals and agencies to ensure that all pupils are encouraged and supported to develop good attendance habits. Any attendance below 95% is a cause for concern and may lead to intervention by the school. The exception to this is if evidence has been provided of illness, chronic or serious ill health.

Latest guidance states that any attendance below 90% will be classified as persistent absence.

We are committed to supporting pupils and families who have been experiencing any difficulties at home or at school which are preventing good attendance.

### Definitions

#### Authorised absence

All absences affect a child's overall percentage attendance. An absence is classified as authorised when a child has been away from school for a legitimate reason and the school has received notification from a parent or carer. For example, if a child has been unwell and the parent telephones the school to explain the absence. Children should return to school as quickly as possible after an illness. Only the school can make an absence authorised, parents do not have this authority. Consequently, not all absences supported by parents will be classified as authorised.

#### Unauthorised absence

An absence is classified as unauthorised when a child is away from school without the permission of the school. Therefore, the absence is unauthorised if a child is away from school without good reason, even with the support of a parent. **Please note that holidays within term time are not permitted and will not be authorised and may be referred to the Local Authority.**

**Please sign and return the slip below to indicate that you have read and understood the Home School Agreement and Attendance Statement.**



## Home School Agreement and Attendance Statement

Please sign and return to indicate that you have read and understood the Home School Agreement and Attendance Statement:

Name of child/children: \_\_\_\_\_

Year group and class/classes: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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