



St. Gregory's Catholic High School

Home School Agreement Policy

Monitoring

The implementation of the policy will be monitored by the Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)

Evaluation

The policy was reviewed by the Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral) and Senior Leadership Team on 3rd October 2022 prior to the submission of the policy to Governors' Community Committee for scrutiny and recommendation to the Full Governing Board for approval.

Policy Review Dates:

Date last approved by Full Governing Board: 13th July 2021

Date submitted to Governors' Committee: 20th October 2022

Date submitted to Full Governing Board: 7th December 2022

Review Frequency: Annually

Start date for policy review: March 2023

Introduction

The term parent/carer is employed throughout this policy to refer to parents, and carers or others in 'loco parentis'. This agreement has the belief that, at its most effective, the education of young people is a collaborative enterprise involving teachers, parents, and the pupils themselves. Parents / carers know a great deal about their child/ward; they have particular insights about their strengths, skills, interests, preferences, aspirations, anxieties and difficulties. Accordingly, the importance of meaningful communications between teachers and the parents /carers of their pupils cannot be overstated. Therefore, the whole school is committed to establishing and maintaining an effective working relationship between the school and home.

There are two basic concepts that are vital to the success of this partnership.

- Parents /carers must be well aware as to the high value that the school places upon their contribution.
- Parents / carers must be well aware of, and understand our educational practice and philosophy

Principles

At the core of every aspect of school life, is the belief that we can have no better inspiration than the example and teaching of Jesus Christ.

The paramount aim of St. Gregory's is to provide an experience of a Christian community in which is established a spirit of mutual trust and co-operation. Thus, will be fostered the fullest spiritual, academic and personal development of our pupils. Pupils, parents / carers, governors and staff are in partnership. The sharing of common goals is essential to the well-being of our community and to the fulfilment of the high aspirations we have for all our pupils.

The clear yet profound justification for a Catholic education, and for a Catholic school as a separate entity, is to be found in the Catholic faith. The Catholic school seeks its definition in the Gospels and the example and teaching of Christ. It is from this foundation that St. Gregory's faces the cultural conditions and challenges of contemporary society.

It is through our SEAL agenda we are able to encourage our pupils to promote and role model our expectations on a daily basis.

As part of our respect agenda all members of our community promote the social and emotional skills which we believe underpin staff/pupil/parent/carer relationships; effective learning, positive behaviour and regular attendance.

The five categories of SEAL (Social Emotional Aspects of Learning) are: self-awareness, managing feelings, motivation, empathy and social skills.

Our whole school approach is encapsulated in '*SEAL it with respect!*'

SEAL helps our pupils to be:

- effective, successful learners
- self-motivated, co-operative workers
- respectful, understanding young adults

They are pupils who:

- make and sustain friendships
- deal with and resolve conflict effectively and fairly
- solve problems with others and by themselves
- manage strong feelings
- are optimistic, recover from setbacks and persist in the face of difficulties

Our SEAL Contract devised by the pupils regarding expectations reads as follows:

SEAL CONTRACT (Written by pupils for pupils)	
<p>St Gregory's will ... Help us to achieve our potential Give us a good education Encourage us to meet new people and make friends Help us to develop our social skills e.g. respect others Help us to make the best of all parts of our life by... Giving us the best education possible Offering to help and support when we need it Giving us a good example in the behaviour of those around us Motivating, encouraging and inspiring us to do our best</p>	<p>I, as an individual, will ... Set my sights high and try my best to achieve my goals Respect my school and the people around me Help and encourage those around me Take a pride in myself and the school community to which I belong by ... Working hard and listening to the advice of the adults around me Showing good manners and behaving well Actively listening to others and considering their feelings Actively contributing to the life of the school in a positive way</p>
<p>As a result, we will work together to create a happy, vibrant and thriving community at St Gregory's</p>	

Aims

In order to achieve our aims the basis of our Home-School Partnership is for the school to:

- Provide a Catholic education based on the example and teaching of Christ.
- Provide a broad and balanced education within a framework of teaching, learning and guidance appropriate to the age and ability of each individual young person
- Set and mark pupil's work in line with school and subject policies
- Monitor your child's progress
- Report to parents / carers on their child's progress and their attitude to learning.
- Provide advice and guidance on the programmes of study which your child is following.

- Be available should you have any concerns and to inform you if your child is experiencing any difficulties.
- Contact parents/carers if there are problems/concerns with attendance/punctuality, behaviour or equipment
- Provide regular opportunities for you to discuss your child's progress with his/her teachers
- Operate a behaviour code to provide an ordered and safe and secure community
- Keep you regularly informed of general school issues
- Use a range of forums to recognise and celebrate achievement and involvement
- Provide a range of extra-curricular activities
- Make every effort to enable all pupils to achieve high standards of work and behaviour by building positive relationships and developing a sense of individual responsibility
- Teach pupils the principles of personal safety, in particular, e-safety and support them in the appropriate use of social sites
- Value all pupils as individual members of the school community

Signature of school representative: C.McKenna

The responsibilities of the parent/carer are to:

- Ensure that my child attends school regularly (minimum attendance of 97% is expected)
- Ensure that my child is on time to school, at the school gate no later than 8.40am
- Contact the school with an explanation on each day my child is absent
- Not take holidays in term-time
- Ensure that my child is equipped for learning each day
- Make the school aware of any problems/concerns that might affect my child's work or behaviour
- Attend Parental Engage Evenings and other information evenings that will support my child
- Support the school in ensuring that my child behaves in an appropriate manner on the way to and from school
- Make sure that my child wears full school uniform and P.E. kit, and adheres to jewellery/ makeup/appearance rules.
- Support the school's homework policy and monitor my child's home learning using the school app
- Support the school's Behaviour for Learning and Electronic Devices Policy
- Actively encourage their child to take part in extracurricular activities
- Support all e-safety guidance/rules, including non-use of mobile phones on school premises
- Check my child's use of social networking sites and seek advice if and when appropriate
- Support the school in its expectations of good behaviour and positive attitudes to all aspects of learning

- Support the school in the application of sanctions when wrong choices have been made
- Provide the school with up-to-date information regarding telephone numbers, changes of address, emergency contacts, medical information etc
- Ensure my child is ready to learn by supporting them with good sleep hygiene and healthy eating
- Support the school in ensuring a healthy and safe environment for all

Signature of parent/carer

The responsibilities of the pupil are to:

- Attend school regularly (minimum attendance of 97% is expected)
- Be punctual to school, at the school gate no later than 8.40am
- Bring the correct books and equipment needed for each lesson
- Wear correct uniform at all times on school premises
- Access the homework app and meet the deadline set for completing all home learning
- Observe the behaviour code and behave with courtesy and respect in corridors, public spaces and the school field
- Try to build positive relationships with all members of the school community and take responsibility for my own actions
- Respect school property and equipment
- Tell an adult about any issues that might affect my work or behaviour
- Not use mobile phones in school
- Follow the Student Acceptable Use Policy when using all forms of technology and report any misuse immediately to a member of staff
- Behave in an appropriate manner on the way to and from school
- Follow all health and safety rules

Signature of young person