

# St Margaret's Church of England Academy



## Home-School Agreement

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 requires all schools to adopt a *Home-School Agreement*. The agreement is not a contract; it is intended to be a statement of the mutual responsibilities of parents, pupils and teachers. At our Academy, parents play a crucial role in the partnership of learning. The Home-School Agreement is therefore based on the Aims, Values, School's Ethos and Communication with Parents sections contained within the School brochure.

# Vision and Values

## Vision

Our Academy Vision Statement:

*“All things are possible for one who believes.”*

Mark 9:23

We are an inclusive, ambitious,  
transformational learning community.

*Through our faith and work,  
and by living out the values of  
**compassion, resilience** and **respect**,  
our whole community will flourish  
and become more fully the people  
**God**  
calls us to be.*

## Values

As outlined above, we have adopted three Christian values which we feel are the basis of our community.

- Our journey will be all the easier if we show **COMPASSION**. Compassion is more than just sympathy: like Jesus, we aim to put ourselves in other people’s shoes, see their point of view, then do something about it. As teachers and leaders, our actions must show that we understand the world from others’ perspectives; as students, we must learn to do that ever more effectively.
- Perhaps we are more accurately described not as human *beings*, but as human *becomings* – people who are always learning, always growing. Growth is rarely pain-free. Learners make mistakes; that is how we learn. Like Jesus we do not shy away from those painful times – times when we will grow more, when we will learn more. As James put it, “*the testing of your faith produces perseverance*” (James 1:3). We will persevere, and show **RESILIENCE**, on our learning journeys.
- The apostle Peter encourages us to “*show proper respect to everyone*” (1 Peter 2:17). We believe that this is necessary, but not sufficient, if we are to be a respectful community. Property, creativity and protected characteristics are all worthy of **RESPECT** too; it is hard for us to claim to be followers of Christ if we do not respect, for example, the different backgrounds represented in our school community.

In talking to staff and students about our values, a recurrent theme has been that of community. By ensuring these values are woven deep into our life as a school, by ensuring that we *all* live them out on a daily basis, we will build a deeply Christian community which will flourish and which will fulfil the vision set out above.

## ***Introduction***

The staff and governors of St Margaret's Church of England Academy share with parents and carers high expectations of all students. We believe students achieve their best when the school, parents and carers, and students themselves work together in partnership. We have developed this home-school agreement, and the long-established partnership that underpins it, to support our students to achieve their best at school.

## ***School's Commitment***

The Academy will make every effort to:

- provide a safe, well-ordered, and caring environment where students are free from fear and discrimination;
- ensure that all students are given support and guidance, and feel valued as individuals;
- reward students appropriately for their academic, extra-curricular and social achievements;
- deal swiftly with any incidents or concerns relating to our students;
- provide different curriculum pathways to meet the needs and aspirations of all our students;
- set clear targets and expectations for all our students;
- provide opportunities for parents and carers to discuss their child's learning, and to provide regular reports of each child's progress;
- ensure that all alleged incidents of bullying and/or acts of discrimination are fully investigated and dealt with according to the agreed policies laid down by the school; and
- offer students (through the Student Council) and parents and carers the opportunity to express their views on school issues.

## ***Parents' and Carers' Commitment***

Parents and carers will make every effort to:

- encourage high standards of attendance and punctuality (note: this includes a commitment not to take holidays in term-time);
- ensure their child attends in full Academy uniform, with a school bag containing the correct equipment for learning;
- inform the Academy immediately when their child is absent from school, and provide a note explaining the reason for absence upon return;
- maintain close contact with the Academy regarding any concerns or problems which may affect learning or behaviour;

- regularly discuss learning and progress, and congratulate their child should he or she receive a reward from the Academy;
- attend all parents’/carers’ evenings for discussions about student progress;
- support the Academy’s Behaviour Policy, e-Safety Guidelines and all other Academy policies;
- use the range of e-resources provided by the Academy to support and guide their child;
- establish with their child good study habits, and support them with homework and revision; and
- inform the school of any change in their contact details.

## ***Student’s Commitment***

Each student will make every effort to:

- attend school every day, and to arrive on time for all registrations and lessons;
- take pride in their appearance by wearing full Academy uniform and bringing to school the correct equipment for learning;
- have a positive attitude towards the Academy, to keep to the Academy rules, to follow all guidance on safety and to behave in a way which helps everybody to learn;
- work to the best of their ability in school and at home, responding to teachers’ marking and feedback;
- use standard English in all lessons;
- respect everybody within the school and local community, their property, privacy and family life so as not to hurt or offend them by anything that is said or done;
- share responsibility for the school environment by looking after school property, books and materials, and helping our school to remain free of litter;
- tell an adult in school about any concerns or bullying;
- make the most of whatever extra-curricular activities that are on offer;
- act as an ambassador for the Academy at all times (including travel to and from the Academy, and on school trips), not using language or actions that offend or discriminate against any other person or groups of people; and
- do everything in their power to keep the Academy free of any substance or implement which could cause harm to myself or others.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr A Robinson  
 (on behalf of St Margaret’s) (parent) \_\_\_\_\_ (student)