



NESTON
HIGH SCHOOL

Neston High School

Home School Agreement

This agreement sets out what the School, the Student and Parent/Carers will do to ensure that your child has the opportunity to achieve the highest possible educational standards and benefits from the opportunities available at Neston High School. By signing this agreement, you will indicate that you agree to support this partnership with your child and the staff at Neston High School.

All admissions, other than Year 7 intake, will require a meeting with a senior member of staff. At this meeting this agreement must be signed by all parties.

The Staff and Trustees of Neston High School will:

- Provide a broad, balanced and flexible curriculum which will challenge your child to achieve their potential
- Ensure that teaching addresses your child's needs, progress will be regularly checked and where additional needs are identified, these will be quickly addressed
- Insist on high standards of behaviour and respect for other people and the environment
- Ensure that through our pastoral system the welfare of your child is paramount and that appropriate communication is made where we have concerns
- Provide a safe and secure environment at school
- Provide many opportunities, including sport and cultural activities, for your child to succeed
- Reward your child for success in the many different areas of school life
- Provide you with a report of progress each term which will include information about attainment, effort, attendance and assessment results
- Arrange one meeting a year for discussion between parents/carers and teachers regarding the progress being made by your child
- Adhere to and follow Local Authority Safeguarding Procedure

AGREEMENT

Parent/Carer

As the parent/carer of my child I acknowledge and understand that:

- The main responsibility for my child's education rests with me by law
- If my child fails to maintain an excellent attendance record the school will take appropriate action
- I will attend meetings in school, if required, to discuss the progress and welfare of my child
- The school will follow Local Authority directions regarding matters of safeguarding
- I have read, and agree with, the school behaviour policy ([Behaviour-and-Discipline-Policy.pdf](#)), including the list of serious incidents which may result in suspension or permanent exclusion
- I have read the student agreement with my child, and we agree to the conditions

Furthermore, I **undertake** to do the following:

- Give my full support to the school, supporting all sanctions that the school issues to my child, ensuring my child attends any detentions set and complies with the conditions of internal exclusion and Step Outs
- Download and use the Arbor App to track and address my child's behaviour in school
- Ensure that my child goes to school regularly, on time and properly equipped
- Ensure the school's policies and guidelines for behaviour and uniform are met
- Attend all Parents' Evenings and Information Evenings at the school
- Read reports sent by the school and take appropriate action
- Provide suitable conditions and support for my child to complete their homework
- Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's work or behaviour
- Ensure my child has a Neston High School phone pouch and stores their mobile phone in it for the duration of the school day, or alternatively ensure they leave their phone at home

I acknowledge that:

- Attendance is a vital component of a student's academic success. I will not take my child/children on holiday during term time. I accept that school will only authorise holidays in term time in the most exceptional of circumstances e.g. immediate family wedding / funeral. The school will normally inform Education Welfare Services and issue Education Penalty Notices if more than 10 sessions are missed.

Children with attendance below 90% are classed as persistent absentees; this will mean they will be closely monitored by the school, the Local Authority and the Department for Education.

AGREEMENT

The Student

I agree to:

- Behave well in class and not disrupt the learning of other students
- Accept all sanctions issued, including detentions
- Actively engage in all aspects of school life to maximise my learning
- Always behave in an appropriate manner during the school day, including the journeys to and from school and on educational visits off-site
- Arrive at school and all lessons on time
- Aim for 100% attendance
- Wear full and correct school uniform according to the school policy
- Bring all the equipment I need each day
- Complete all my class work and homework on time and to the best of my ability
- Be polite and helpful to others both in face-to-face situations and via electronic communication
- Respect the school environment
- Store my mobile phone in a phone pouch or leave my phone at home

Advice for Parents/Carers on Student Exclusion from School

No Headteacher likes to suspend or exclude a student from school, but there may be times when this is considered necessary. If your child has been suspended or excluded it means that he or she will not be allowed to attend school because of the difficulties that have arisen concerning a serious breach of conduct. The evidence required to suspend or exclude will need to meet the 'civil standard' of proof i.e. on the balance of probability, it is more likely than not that the student was responsible for the breach of school discipline

The school will follow the local authority guidance on suspensions and exclusions.

Suspensions

A child who seriously breaches the school's Behaviour Policy can be suspended for a fixed period of time. Schools can suspend a child if:

- They have seriously breached the school's Behaviour Policy
- Allowing them to stay in school would seriously harm their education or welfare, or the education or welfare of other students

Your child cannot be given fixed period (non-permanent) suspensions which total more than 45 school days in any one school year.

We will make every effort to contact you on the day a suspension is given and follow up with a letter including information on:

- The period and reason for suspension
- Your duty during the first five days of any suspension to ensure that your child is not present in a public place during normal school hours, whether in the company of a parent/carer or not
- Any arrangements that apply from the sixth day of the suspension

Permanent exclusions

The Headteacher will usually only permanently exclude a student as a last resort, after trying to improve the student's behaviour through all other means. However, there are exceptional circumstances in which a Headteacher may decide to permanently exclude a student for a 'one-off' serious offence.

If your child has been permanently excluded, be aware that:

- The school's Board of Trustees is required to review the Headteacher's decision and you may meet with them to explain your views on the exclusion
- If the Board of Trustees approves the exclusion, you can appeal to an independent appeal panel organised by the local authority
- We must explain in a letter how to lodge an appeal
- We will provide education for the first five days of the permanent exclusion
- The local authority must provide full-time education from the sixth day of a permanent exclusion.