

HOME/SCHOOL AGREEMENT

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Through Jesus, we learn, love and grow together

Dear _____

The staff at St. Aloysius' Junior School wants _____ to do well in school, both academically and socially. We believe that success depends on a good working relationship between you and the school. Parents and children are expected to attend and worship at Mass as part of the parish community. Failure to attend may affect your future application to a Catholic secondary school.

In order to be quite clear about what is involved in this, we have drawn up an agreement that we hope explains clearly what we expect from you and what you can expect from us.

1) ATTENDANCE, PUNCTUALITY AND ILLNESS

We expect your child to attend school regularly. If your child is absent, you should contact the school on the first day of absence or as soon as possible. When your child returns to school you must supply a note, giving the reason for absence.

If your child becomes ill at school, we will always contact you or the person designated by you as your emergency contact. You must provide us with an emergency telephone number and tell us about any change of address or telephone numbers.

We expect your child to arrive punctually, as late arrivals are disruptive to the class.

2) BEHAVIOUR, DISCIPLINE AND EXCLUSION

We expect your child to behave in a responsible manner, both to him/herself and to others, showing respect, consideration and courtesy to others at all times. Good behaviour will be praised and rewarded. We use various methods to deal with misbehaviour.

We consider the following to be serious transgressions of acceptable behaviour:

- Racist behaviour – words spoken or actions taken which cause offence to others, whether deliberately or otherwise, on the basis of their race, religion, colour, ethnicity or family origin.
- Bullying – the wilful, conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten someone else.
- Swearing at adults.
- Physical violence of any kind.
- Spitting.
- Any behaviour that may place oneself or others in danger.
- Repetition of the same or a similar offence.

Exclusion of a child is a very serious matter and will, in general, be imposed only after all else has failed.

3) SCHOOL UNIFORM

We aim to instil in your child a sense of belonging to the school community, to foster self-esteem and equality and to promote a positive image of the school within the wider community. We expect your child to wear the correct uniform in school and when travelling to and from school. Stud earrings are permissible but no other jewellery may be worn. Items that are not school uniform will be confiscated and the school will not be responsible for loss or damage. If, for some good reason, your child is not in the correct uniform you must send in a note to explain.

4) HOMEWORK

We believe that homework can effectively extend the time that the children spend on learning, providing them with opportunities to reach higher levels and make greater progress. In our experience, it helps to improve the links between home and school, providing parents with opportunities both to support their children and to become more involved in the learning process. We expect your child to complete the tasks set by the staff and ask you to sign the assignments. If the homework is not completed, you should write a brief explanation for the class teacher.

5) VISITS TO THE SCHOOL

We believe it is essential to have strong working links with the home and we undertake to keep you informed of special events, outings, assemblies and Masses. There will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child's academic progress at an open evening every year and it is very important that you attend.

We will inform you if a serious problem arises and invite you to a meeting to discuss the situation. In return, if you have any concerns we will be happy to see you by appointment. For the safety and security of everyone, visitors to the school must report to the office and sign the visitors' book.

We expect all visitors to be courteous and respectful to all members of our school community. The safety of our staff is of the utmost importance to us and we view any attack on a member of staff, whether physical or verbal, as being extremely serious.

6) VIDEOS

There are occasions when we allow the children to watch a video in school, supervised by a member of staff. The videos may be categorised as "U" – Universal or "PG" – Parental Guidance. Please tick the relevant box to indicate whether or not you give your permission for your child/children to watch a video in school.

I give my permission for my child/children to watch a video in school. **Yes** **No**

I give my permission for my child/children to go on school trips. **Yes** **No**

7) PHOTOGRAPHS

We like to involve the children in a number of activities on the school premises and on trips and outings and there are times when photographs of the children in action are of great value in school, and occasionally, in the local press. Please tick the relevant box to indicate whether or not we have your permission for photographs of your child to be taken for school purposes.

I give my permission for photographs of my child to be taken for school purposes. **Yes** **No**

8) COMPLAINTS

We always try to achieve our objectives and put our Mission Statement into practice. In doing so, we hope to prevent any situations arising that may cause dissatisfaction.

However, if you do have a complaint, we will do our best to ensure that your complaint is considered fully, fairly and carefully, and is quickly resolved.

9) SCHOOL BUILDING FUND

As our school is a voluntary aided school, certain costs of the upkeep of the buildings and the insurance have to be met by the Governing Body. The Governors ask each family to contribute £20 per year, in order to maintain a safe and attractive environment for the children.

This agreement has been drawn up from a number of written policies under which the school operates. They are available in school for you to read. If any parts of this agreement are not clear to you or are not acceptable, the Head Teacher will be pleased to discuss them with you.

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I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL PARTS OF THIS AGREEMENT AND
WILL ABIDE BY IT.

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL: _____

DATE: _____