

Home School Book Policy

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The Home / School Book

1.0 <u>Preamble</u>

- 1.1 Most pupils / students at Ickburgh school are unable to let their parents / carers know how their school day or weekend went, because their cognitive impairment is such that speech, language, communication, and memory is significantly impaired
- 1.2 Most pupils and students also travel to school using school transport and therefore parents / carers are unable to pass information in person to their child's teacher, and so to teachers to parents/carers.
- 1.3 The home / school book therefore acts as a bridge between home and school, a channel for communication.

2.0 Aim

2.1 This policy aims to improve the quality of home / school information so that parents/ carers have a more accurate account of their child's achievements, conduct, activities / experiences, health and well-being.

3.0 Purpose

- 3.1 The home / school book supports daily communication between the school (teachers) and home (parents / carers).
- 3.2 The home / school book is a vital means of ongoing communication for teachers as well as for parents/carers and, has a primary role in ensuring maximum benefit for the pupils.
- 3.3 Teachers and parents/carers record important information about a pupil's / students' achievements, conduct, activities / experiences, health and well-being. Information shared in the home / school book adds to continuity of approaches at home and school for the benefit of each child.

4.0 Strategies

- 4.1 Teachers will make an accurate day to day record of the following:
- 4.1.1 Conduct (behaviour/ engagement)
- 4.1.2 Activities/ experiences/ achievements
- 4.1.3 Health (lunch, medication, seizures, toileting)
- 4.1.4 Wellbeing (happy, sad, unwell, alert, tired)
- 4.1.5 Because information to parents/carers is child specific, parents will be asked to complete a tick chart to signify the areas they would like to receive regular information on from the class team.
- 4.2 Teachers will take note and act on, where necessary, parents / carers submissions each morning when a child arrives in class,



- 4.3 For operational and record purposes parents/ carers will be encouraged to pass on all day to day information through the home/school book, including news about their child's weekend so that it can be shared.
- 4.4 Where there are important confidential issues to address parents/carers are encouraged to write a letter or inform the class teacher, school nurse, department head or senior leader.
- 4.5 Teachers and teaching assistants will receive training to ensure that there is a culture of improvement fostered in the schools communication with parents / carers.
- 4.6 The quality of home / school books will be reviewed twice a year in departmental and/or teachers meetings.

5.0 Urgent and important information

- 5.1 From time to time information which is deemed urgent and important may need to be passed onto to parents / carers as soon as possible. This is usually conveyed through a telephone call to the main carer, as recorded in a pupil / students admissions papers.
- 5.2 The call should be made at the time of the incident usually by the class teacher or a nominated person. The class teacher remains responsible for the content of the call and the call being made at a timely moment.
- 5.3 The substance of the call should be recorded in the home / school book, on the day of the call or as soon as is practicably possible, and the class teachers or nominated person remains responsible.

Linked Policy Home / school agreement