Home/School Agreement 2023-24



At Bedford, we believe in effective relationships with parents and guardians. If we work as a team, we create a formula for success! By getting the basics right, we all enable your child to succeed. By choosing Bedford and sending your child to our school, this means that you will support us with the home/school agreement.

As a student, to give myself and others the best possible chances of learning at Bedford High School, I will:

- 1. Follow instructions of staff at all times, first time, every time.
- 2. Take responsibility for my actions and my behaviour, recognising that the choices we make have consequences.
- 3. Ensure my behaviour is exemplary, and in line with the Bedford SPIRIT, by following the school rules and staff instructions.
- 4. Work hard.
- 5. Complete all class work and homework as well as possible, and not disrupt the work of others.
- 6. Speak up if I have a concern, understanding that it is my duty to safeguard myself and others.
- 7. Attend regularly (at least 97% of the time), on time.
- 8. Be properly equipped for work, with a strong bag carrying all of the equipment from the parent list below.
- 9. Attend form time, engage in tutor activities and participate in our enrichment programme.
- 10. Value the resources provided to me by using them with care and only in support of my learning.
- 11. Ensure that my mobile phone or any other smart device is switched off at all times and placed in my bag once I have entered the school site. I will ensure I do not switch the phone on until leave the school site.
- 12. Be polite, supportive and helpful to others. I will also be kind and respectful, and I will ensure my actions and words do not harm others.
- 13. Know and understand the school's uniform policy. I will ensure I wear the correct school uniform and wear it appropriately at all times.
- 14. Ensure my appearance is appropriate for school by not wearing fake tan, make-up, fake lashes or any jewellery that is not permitted in school.
- 15. Show care, responsibility and respect for our school, its equipment and surroundings at all times by keeping the school free from litter and graffiti and respecting its environment.
- 16. Make sure that letters and messages given to me are passed on promptly.
- 17. Maintain high standards of behaviour travelling to and from school.
- 18. Take advantage of the opportunities provided by the school's programme of after school enrichment activities.

School Work – as a Parent/Guardian, to support our child and Bedford, I/we will:

- Support my/our child in doing homework and other opportunities for home-learning.
- 2. Attend parents evenings and events and other meetings about my/our child's education and progress.
- 3. Encourage my child to take part in enrichment activities and other out of classroom opportunities for learning
- 4. Help my child copy their timetable into their KO file so they have a permanent record of it and encourage them to keep a spare in case, just in case.
- 5. Encourage them to work hard in ALL of their lessons, respect silence in lessons, work hard and be an active learner.
- 6. Get my child used to self-testing; read, cover, copy and repeat.
- 7. Support my child with homework, helping them to check Frog and plan their evening of work each night.
- 8. Encourage 20 minutes of reading per night, and if reading intervention is offered by the school, encourage my child to attend.
- 9. Help check my child's bag each night to ensure they have their KO file, pens, pencils and other stationery and their PE kit on the right day.

Wellbeing - as a Parent/Guardian, to support our child and Bedford, I/we will:

- 1. Send my child in to school having had a healthy breakfast and with a bottle of water to drink throughout the day.
- 2. Agree a midweek curfew and stick to it, understanding that clear boundaries for children are helpful and children often behave differently in the community when unaccompanied by adults.

- 3. Ensure my child gets plenty of sleep by removing their mobile phone or device from their room at least an hour before they go to bed. Blue screens from devices can disrupt the quality of sleep, which can affect a child's ability to consolidate their learning from the previous day as well as affect their ability to concentrate in lessons.
- 4. If my child cycles to school, I'll speak to them about using a helmet and safe cycling. Weaving in and out of traffic, riding without hands on handlebars, carrying other children on bikes and other unsafe practices can lead to a child being asked to find alternative means to get to and from school. I also understand that bicycles are parked on site at the owner's own risk.
- 5. Guide your child on child-on-child abuse which includes, but is not limited to: physical and sexual abuse, sexual, harassment and violence, emotional harm, on and offline bullying, teenage relationship abuse. Support their understanding that this is behaviour that is repeated, intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally and often aimed at certain groups, for example because of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

Behaviour - as a Parent/Guardian, to support our child and Bedford, I/we will:

- 1. Read, understand and support the school's behaviour policy.
- 2. Download the Class Charts app, familiarise myself/ourselves with Frog, and make every effort to stay informed about the School.
- 3. Understand and support that the school will make decisions regarding sanctions for student behaviour that falls short of the school's expectations.
- 4. Understand that schools are busy places and a response to a phone call may not come for 2 working days. Please do not attend school without an appointment and make your child's form tutor the first point of contact.
- 5. Check the uniform policy (on the school website and sent out in the transition booklet in Year 7) to ensure I understand the expectations on uniform.
- 6. Encourage my child to leave their phone or device at home, or if my child must have their phone with them, remind them to switch it off before school. I will not attempt to contact mychild by phone/ text during the school day. Any urgent messages should be directed through the appropriate school communication channels.
- 7. Support school with sanctions, especially if this is after school. A united front is the best way forward for your child.
- 8. Attend meetings at the school about my child when there is attendance, and/or behaviour concerns.
- 9. Remind your child to show good manners and respect to all members of staff and be a good role model for others.
- 10. Ensure my child understands what is acceptable behaviour on a school bus, and in the community.
- 11. Ensure my child attends school detentions if/when set (break time, Lunch time and after school)
- 12. Ensure that the complaints procedure, and not social media, is used if I am unhappy with any element of the school's provision for my child.

Attendance – as a Parent/Guardian, to support our child and Bedford, I/we will:

- 1. Encourage good timekeeping, helping my child to get into good habits to arrive before the start of school at 8.30am.
- 2. Value good attendance; recognising that anything under 97% should be seen as requiring improvement and that good attendance leads to good progress.