

Home School Agreement - Main School (2025)

This home-school agreement is seen as an important partnership between the school, its parents and its students which enables a successful education.

In joining the school parents and students are sharing and supporting our belief that happiness, well-being and lifelong success comes from working hard to:

1. learn and achieve one's best;
2. be an active participant in school life;
3. give back to the school, House and local community;
4. connect with others and maintain good healthy relationships;
5. appreciate what one has.

The School's Commitment:

The School agrees to ensure that each student:

1. receives a published programme of study in each of his/her subjects;
2. is appropriately challenged and supported to make progress;
3. has his/her work regularly assessed through Key Assessments and commented upon;
4. has the opportunity to be involved in activities outside the classroom;

The school agrees to ensure that each parent/guardian/carer:

1. is informed about any rewards or achievements relevant to their child;
2. is informed of any academic, pastoral or behavioural concerns;
3. has any concerns dealt with promptly and confidentially;
4. receives regular academic progress grades for their child;
5. knows they can contact their child's tutor or Head of House;
6. has the opportunity to give feedback to the School formally at least once a year;
7. has access to the Head Teacher through open-door mornings.

All of the below will be asked on the joining pack forms to return. These will be sent by email and will have a tick box for

I Agree

I Disagree

If you disagree with any of the following then we will require you to discuss further with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and will contact you accordingly.

1.) Gordon's operates a significantly stricter than average **behaviour policy** that includes a strict dress / hair code. Only a decision to permanently exclude can be overturned by the Governing Body or any third party, all other decisions are entirely at the discretion of the school and based on the school's view on probability rather than proving a case beyond reasonable doubt. By ticking this box you are accepting these facts and trusting that the school, even in disciplinary action against your son/daughter, is acting responsibly and as they must in the best interests of the wider community.

School Detention on a Friday runs from 4.45pm to 5.45pm and takes priority over other commitments.

By ticking the box, you are agreeing to the above.

2) **Parental support** for disciplinary action. Student behaviour deteriorates where parents openly back their son/daughter without first speaking to the school privately. By ticking this box you are agreeing to support school decisions in front of your son/daughter and when you have concerns discuss these with the school in private.

3) **Parental support** for disciplinary action. The school is unable to accommodate parents requests to change the date or time of sanctions. By ticking this box you are agreeing to support school decisions in front of your son/daughter and when you have concerns discuss these with the school in private.

4) **Parades and ceremonial activities.** Weekend parades and Friday drill practice are part and parcel of being a member of the Gordon's community. In ticking the below box you are undertaking to ensure to plan around parade days and ensure your son/daughter represents the school on these occasions, whether or not they want to and throughout their GCSE years

5) **Sport and activities.** Competitive team sport and other out of class activities promotes a healthy body, good mental health, discipline and social skills, which in turn aid academic performance and successful careers. By ticking this box you are accepting these benefits and undertaking that your son/daughter will represent the school when selected for a team, whether or not they want to and ahead of any commitment to other clubs or organisations. Exceptions are made for county and national level representation.

6) **Attendance.** Gordon's operates a 7 period day and Saturday morning programme, which is compulsory unless the school has agreed to permit an out-of-school activity, in advance. By ticking this box you are agreeing to this and accepting that absence from any period above is likely to result in a sanction.

7) **Absence.** All absence from school Periods 1-7 and Saturdays must be authorised. With the exception of Saturdays, all absence requests should go to absence@gordons.school

Saturday absence requests should be sent to Director of Co-Curricular rrowlands@gordons.school and absence@gordons.school. All reasonable effort is made to accommodate a legitimate absence from school.

Parade absences should go to the Head via Jacqui George, Head's PA, jgeorge@gordons.school

By ticking this box, you are agreeing to seek authorisation for all absences and abide by the school's decision or enter into a dialogue with the school if you feel unable to do so.

8) **Choice.** Whilst every effort is made to listen to students' and parents' views, final decisions, whilst students are in our care 8am to 5pm each day (and Saturday mornings) for day boarders and all-day for residential boarders, rest with the school. By ticking this box you are accepting that your son/daughter, even if they disagree, must do as the school asks and not as they please.

9) **Courtesy.** By ticking this box you are agreeing to abide by the Parents' Charter and treat all members of staff, students and fellow parents as you would wish to be treated.

10) **Complaints.** By ticking this box you are agreeing to try and resolve issues with subject teachers, Heads of Department or Heads of Houses and where issues remain unresolved follow the published Complaints Policy.

11) **Uniform expectations.** All students are expected to abide by our uniform expectations as laid out in the Boarding Handbook. This includes top buttons done up, shirts tucked in and skirts of an appropriate length until 6.15pm and when representing the school. Students may wear Gordon's branded PE kit in prep from 6.15pm until 7.30pm. Any student where there are concerns regarding behaviour or appearance may expect sanctions.

PE kit must be current and no legacy items are acceptable. Current items are shown on the website.

By ticking this box, you are agreeing to the above.

12) **Contact details.** We may need to contact you in an emergency. By ticking this box you are taking responsibility to keep the school informed about any change in family circumstances, including medical issues and contact details.