

FOOTSTEPS TRUST HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT, DIGITAL LEARNING AND ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

1. Purpose

This agreement sets out the shared responsibilities of:

- Footsteps Trust
- Students
- Parents and Carers

We believe that strong partnerships between home and school are essential to student achievement, wellbeing, safeguarding and personal development.

This agreement supports:

- Positive relationships.
- High expectations.
- Excellent attendance.
- Online safety.
- Safeguarding.
- Academic progress.
- Preparation for adulthood.

2. Footsteps Trust Commitment

The Academy will:

Learning

- Deliver a broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum.
- Support all students to make progress.
- Provide differentiated and personalised learning where appropriate.
- Promote engagement and achievement.

Safeguarding

- Maintain a safe, secure and inclusive environment.
- Act in the best interests of students.
- Follow safeguarding procedures in line with KCSIE 2026.
- Promote student wellbeing and mental health.

Behaviour

- Promote positive behaviour.
- Maintain clear and consistent expectations.
- Use fair and proportionate responses.
- Support students to develop self-regulation.

Attendance

- Monitor attendance and punctuality.
- Work with families to address concerns.
- Promote excellent attendance.

Equality and Inclusion

- Treat all students fairly.
- Promote equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Challenge discrimination and prejudice.
- Support students with SEND and additional needs.

Communication

- Maintain effective communication with parents and carers.
- Share information regarding progress and wellbeing.
- Provide opportunities for discussion and feedback.

Online Safety

- Provide filtering and monitoring systems.
- Educate students about online risks.
- Promote safe and responsible technology use.

3. Student Commitment

Footsteps students will:

Learning

- Attend regularly and punctually.
- Work to the best of my ability.
- Engage positively in lessons.
- Complete work and independent learning tasks.

Behaviour

- Follow Academy expectations.
- Behave safely and responsibly.
- Accept support and guidance.
- Contribute positively to the Academy community.

Respect

- Treat others with kindness and respect.
- Value diversity.
- Avoid discriminatory language and behaviour.
- Help create a safe environment.

Safeguarding

- Report concerns to trusted adults.
- Speak up if worried about myself or others.
- Follow safety expectations.

Attendance

- Attend every day unless there is a genuine reason for absence.
- Arrive on time.
- Engage fully throughout the day.

Facilities and Environment

- Respect Academy property.
- Use equipment appropriately.
- Help maintain a safe and clean environment.

4. Parent and Carer Commitment

Parents and carers will:

Support Learning

- Encourage positive attitudes towards education.
- Support homework and home learning.
- Promote aspirations and achievement.

Support Attendance

- Ensure regular attendance.
- Inform the Academy of absences promptly.
- Promote punctuality.

Support Behaviour

- Encourage respectful behaviour.
- Work collaboratively with the Academy.
- Support agreed strategies.

Support Safeguarding

- Share relevant information that may affect a child's wellbeing.
- Notify the Academy of concerns.

- Engage with safeguarding and support processes where required.

Communication

- Attend meetings where possible.
- Read communications from the Academy.
- Keep contact details up to date.

Online Safety

- Monitor children's online activity appropriately.
- Support safe technology use.
- Reinforce online safety messages.

5. Student ICT and Digital Acceptable Use Agreement

Students are expected to use Academy systems responsibly.

Students will:

- Use technology for educational purposes.
- Follow staff instructions regarding technology use.
- Keep usernames and passwords secure.
- Respect the privacy of others.
- Report concerns immediately.

Students must not:

- Access inappropriate content.
- Attempt to bypass filtering systems.
- Share passwords.
- Access another person's account.
- Download unauthorised software.
- Engage in cyberbullying.
- Record or share images without permission.
- Damage Academy systems.

6. Online Safety Expectations

In line with KCSIE 2026, students are expected to:

- Use technology safely.
- Report harmful content.
- Respect others online.
- Avoid sharing personal information.
- Avoid unsafe online communication.

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- Challenge discriminatory behaviour appropriately.
- Act responsibly on social media.

Students will receive regular education regarding:

- Cyberbullying.
- Online exploitation.
- Grooming.
- Sextortion.
- Harmful content.
- Misinformation and disinformation.
- Privacy and security.

7. Filtering and Monitoring

The Academy uses filtering and monitoring systems to help safeguard students.

Students should understand that:

- Internet activity may be monitored.
- Unsafe content may be blocked.
- Safeguarding concerns may be investigated.
- Serious misuse may result in restrictions and further action.

Monitoring is carried out proportionately and for safeguarding and security purposes.

8. Remote and Blended Learning

Where remote learning is required, students will:

- Access learning regularly.
- Complete assigned work.
- Follow online conduct expectations.
- Interact respectfully with staff and peers.

Parents and carers should:

- Support access to learning where possible.
- Inform the Academy if difficulties arise.
- Promote engagement.

The Academy will:

- Provide learning opportunities.
- Monitor participation.
- Maintain communication.

- Support students appropriately.

9. Privacy and Personal Data

The Academy processes personal information in accordance with:

- UK GDPR.
- Data Protection Act 2018.
- Academy Privacy Notices.

Personal information is used to:

- Support education.
- Protect welfare.
- Monitor progress.
- Fulfil legal duties.
- Safeguard students.

Full details are available in the Student and Parent Privacy Notice.

10. Breaches of this Agreement

Where expectations are not met, the Academy may:

- Provide support and guidance.
- Meet with parents/carers.
- Restrict access to systems.
- Apply behaviour procedures.
- Implement safeguarding interventions.

Any response will be proportionate and take account of individual needs and circumstances.

11. Review

This agreement will be reviewed annually and updated to reflect:

- Changes in legislation.
- KCSIE updates.
- Safeguarding developments.
- Technological changes.
- Academy priorities.