

HOME - SCHOOL AGREEMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

'Becoming the people God calls us to be'

Our school shares with parents and the broader community the important task of preparing young people for life. As part of the education provision of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton, we share also in the mission of the Church, which is the mission of Christ himself. Within the context of a caring community dedicated to high standards of achievement and behaviour, St Philip Howard aims to communicate the Christian good news to our young people, enabling them to grow in the knowledge and practice of their faith and in their spiritual, academic, social and physical development.

A close and supportive partnership between home and school provides the best possible foundation for enabling our students to acquire the understanding, skills and personal values that they will need as responsible adults in the modern world. This agreement sets out to express the commitment that will be required from all concerned if our mission is to be fulfilled and our aims met.

THE SPH CREDO

You are very special. In the world there is nobody like you. Since the beginning of time there has never been another person like you. Nobody has your smile, your hands, your hair. Nobody owns your handwriting, your voice. You are special.

Nobody can paint your brushstrokes. Nobody has your taste for food, music or dance, or art. Nobody in the universe see things as you do. In all time there has never been anyone who laughs in exactly your way and what makes you laugh or cry or think may have a totally different response in another. So you're special.

You're different from any other person who has ever lived in the history of the universe. You are the only one in the whole creation who has your particular set of abilities. There is always someone who is better at one thing or another but nobody can match the symphonic sound when all are played together – Your symphony. Through all eternity no one will ever walk, talk, think or do exactly like you. You're special.

You are rare and in all rarity there is enormous value because of your great value the need for you to imitate anyone else is absolutely wrong. You are special and it is no accident that you are. Please realise that God made you for a special purpose. He has a job for you to do that nobody else can do as well as you can. Out of the billions of applications only one is qualified. Only one has the unique and right combination of what it takes and that one is you.

You are special.

THE SCHOOL'S COMMITMENT TO ITS STUDENTS

We want to enable you as a student to develop to the fullest extent your understanding of Christianity and its place in our lives, your academic potential, your broader interests and experiences and your respect for the rights and feelings of others. In order to achieve this, the school commits itself:

- a] To give you the experience of belonging to a community founded on Catholic faith and practice.
- b] To encourage the growth of your spiritual and inner self by sharing with you our school's life of prayer and worship.
- c] To develop your moral values and understanding.
- d] To provide you with a caring, challenging and disciplined environment in which the staff, facilities and school organisation encourage you to enjoy your education and achieve your best.
- e] To offer you a broad and balanced curriculum in accordance with your individual needs.
- f] To develop your powers of understanding and communication.
- g] To develop your ability to calculate, evaluate, analyse and research.
- h] To encourage you to develop your observation and imagination, and your ability to create, design and make.
- i] To develop your understanding of our world, both past and present, and your respect for the environment.
- j] To increase your appreciation of major scientific, technological and artistic achievements.
- k] To encourage you towards physical fitness, a healthy lifestyle, involvement in teamwork and development of performance skills.
- l] To provide you with the skills to organise yourself and your work.
- m] To assess your potential, setting individual targets for you to aim at, measuring your progress and reporting regularly to you and your parents.
- n] To encourage strong links and effective communication between home and school.
- o] To give you the opportunity to accept responsibility, pursue personal interests and take part in a variety of out-of-school activities.
- p] To encourage you to behave in a considerate way by observing the Student Code of Conduct.
- q] To recognise and reward your achievements and support you in your personal development.
- r] To help you to gain the highest possible qualifications, and prepare you for adult life, the world of work and participation in the local, national and international community.

Signature of Headteacher:



Mr T Hulse

THE STUDENT'S COMMITMENT TO OUR SCHOOL

If I am to make the most of my time at St Philip Howard Catholic School, I understand and accept the importance of observing the **Student Code of Conduct** as set out below:

- a] To participate sincerely and respectfully in the school's life of prayer and worship.
- b] To remember Christ's teaching that I should always treat others as I would wish them to treat me.
- c] To appreciate that I am a member of an outstanding school, and to seek by my own efforts to make it an even better place.
- d] To abide by school rules and to act always in a way that will bring credit on me, my family and my school - not only during the school day, but also when travelling to and from school.
- e] To wear my uniform with pride and try always to look smart and well turned-out.
- f] To come to school properly equipped at all times.
- g] To attend regularly and to be punctual in arriving at school and at lessons.
- h] To work my hardest throughout my school career, to have high expectations of myself and to demonstrate a positive 'can do' attitude at all times.
- i] To become involved in the extra-curricular life of the school, so as to broaden my interests and to discover my hidden talents.
- j] To show respect, courtesy and friendship to others, remembering that good manners cost nothing, and that rudeness is never admirable or funny.
- k] To be just and fair in dealing with others, and never to take dishonest advantage of a situation.
- l] To show self-control and to avoid losing my temper.
- m] To be sure **never** to bully anyone, or show intentional unkindness in what I say or do - and to have the courage to report offences when I am aware of them.
- n] To oppose racism and any kind of prejudice being shown by word or deed to an individual or group.
- o] To take great care of the school environment and equipment, which are the collective responsibility of us all.
- p] To use the school buildings with an awareness of the comfort and safety of others, and to do nothing that would endanger these.
- q] To dispose neatly of my own litter, and to show by my behaviour and attitudes that I care for the environment of the school and its local surroundings.

Student's Signature:

Date:

THE PARENT'S/CARER'S COMMITMENT TO OUR SCHOOL

By signing this form, I sign on behalf of all adults registered with the school to support my child. I understand and acknowledge that the prime responsibility for my child's education rests with me by law, and that while the school will give me every assistance in meeting this responsibility, my active support for my child's school career is necessary if he/she is to gain maximum benefit from it. With this in mind, I undertake to the best of my ability:

- a] To support the Catholic Christian ethos of the school, and my child's participation in its life of prayer and worship and its commitment to Gospel values.
- b] To support the disciplinary standards and procedures of the school, and in particular my child's observing of the Student Code of Conduct.
- c] To ensure that my child attends school regularly and punctually, and support the school in aiming for 100% attendance during term time.
- d] To inform the school of the reason for my child's absence before 8.40am on the *first* day of any non-attendance, and on subsequent days thereafter.
- e] To provide the school – on my child's return after absence – with a signed and dated note of explanation.
- f] To ensure that my child attends in full school uniform and properly equipped for schoolwork.
- g] To encourage my child in a positive and serious-minded approach to academic study, and in particular:
 - to ensure that conditions at home are suitable for the completion of homework
 - to look through exercise books and other work in hand
 - to check and sign the student planner on a regular basis
 - to encourage reading for information and pleasure
- h] To attend parents evenings with my child in order to discuss progress and attainment, or to receive information about the curriculum.
- i] To read written reports sent by the school and to respond to them as appropriate.
- j] To keep the school fully informed of any significant changes in personal details or home circumstances.
- k] To give occasional support to school events, for instance plays, concerts, sports fixtures and the various PTA activities which do so much to enrich our school and help our students.
- l] To support decisions made by the headteacher and the governing body with regard to the school's management, and in the event of dispute to agree to follow the formal complaints procedure as set out in the complaints policy.

Signature(s) of Parent(s)/ Carer(s):

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Date: