



# The Abbey

The independent school for girls aged 3-18.

## Home School Agreement Information

The School Standards and Framework Act of 1998 requires all maintained schools to adopt a Home School agreement and here at The Abbey we can see many advantages to establishing and maintaining a strong link between school, parents and pupils. There is no doubt that the best situation for a pupil occurs when parents, teachers and pupils are all 'pulling in the same direction' and by reading, signing and returning the Agreement, we will have established expectations on all three sides.

The Abbey will offer the highest quality learning and teaching environment with a curriculum which is broad, balanced, challenging and offering equal opportunities to all, designed to suit academically able girls. The School has high expectations of the work and behaviour of all girls. We have a strong House System which offers many opportunities for girls to be involved in representing their House in sporting competitions, dance, drama and musical productions.

Effective education is impossible without regular attendance and we expect all girls to be punctual. Parents are expected to notify the School on the first day of absence if their daughter is unable to attend and when their daughter returns to school after an absence, a signed letter from a parent is required to explain the absence. Removing children from school for holidays during term time is disruptive to the education of the student and it sends inappropriate messages with regard to the relative importance of holidays and education. Parents do not have the automatic right to do this and leave of absence must be granted in advance by the Head of the Senior School.

Homework is regarded as an essential part of your daughter's learning; it will help her to develop self-discipline, encourage her to work independently and extend her knowledge base with particular reference to public examinations. It is expected that homework will be completed on time and to an acceptable standard.

We need parents to be supportive by taking an interest in the homework, signing the School Planner each week, providing sufficient time and an environment in which homework can be completed to the best of a student's ability. Parents will receive a copy of their daughter's Homework Timetable via Clarion Call at the beginning of the academic year. Teaching staff will set homework according to the timetable and parents need to help pupils establish good practice from the time they join, which can then be maintained throughout their time at The Abbey.

It is important to have good communication between home and school and at The Abbey we hold Parents' meetings, give regular interim Report Cards and a full written report each year. Parents may contact the relevant Form Tutor for a verbal report on progress, either by telephone, email or mutually arranged appointment. If necessary, parents may also contact the relevant Head of Year,



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Assistant Head Pastoral and Head of the Senior School. To enable us to support your daughter, please inform the Form Tutor of any home based issues that may affect your daughter's work or behaviour.

Pupils represent The Abbey from leaving home in the morning until returning home and it is expected that they will conform to high standards of behaviour and appearance. All parents and girls are expected to support the School's behaviour and discipline policies. The Abbey has an excellent reputation and pupils are expected to uphold that reputation by being smartly dressed in school uniform and by being courteous to and respectful of others at all times.