

Great Budworth C of E Primary School

Flexi-Schooling Partnership Agreement



'Love one another, as I have loved you' John 13:34

Introduction

At Great Budworth CE Primary School we offer a model of both full-time education and a flexi schooling model. Flexi-Schooling must not be confused with elective home education. Parents / carers have a legal right to choose to home educate their child, but parents / carers do not have a legal right to insist on a flexi-schooling arrangement being agreed by our school. This decision is down to headteacher's discretion as to whether this is in the best interests to your child.

What is flexi-schooling?

Flexi-schooling is not the same as home schooling / Elective Home Education. Parent/carers who request flexi-school attendance are asking for a pattern of provision which will involve both attendance at school, as well as times when the child will receive educational provision at home.

Flexi-schooling is also different from temporary part-time attendance arrangements which the school / parent / carer may seek to make. Such arrangements are monitored and reviewed with the intention that the child be returned to full time attendance as soon as possible. However, Flexi-Schooling is full time, although the provision may be split between school and educational provision at home.

Arrangements for flexi-schooling can only be made at the request of a parent / carer with parental responsibility. This is not an arrangement that can be initiated by the school.

We offer flexi schooling on the basis that the following points are agreed to:

- Attendance on a minimum of three days each week, these are set as Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- Key Stage Two children in year six attend for one full week for statutory assessment held in May.
- The children attend for the full day, arriving by 8.45 until 3.15pm
- Evidence of the work done on home-school days is shared with school. This can be via a workbook or sent via email.
- There is a requirement for all of our pupils to wear our school uniform.
- Parents need to use the guidance offered by the school via the website in the Flexi-School section to support this document.

Individualised arrangements can be discussed in addition to the above points.

Whilst a parent / carer may request that their child is flexi-schooled it is entirely at the sole discretion of our Head of school Mrs Rachel Corradine and our Executive Headteacher Miss Rhian Perry, as to whether the school is prepared to agree to a flexi-schooling arrangement. There is no right of appeal to the IEB or higher authority if the proposal is declined on application, or rescinded at a later date.

Each request to Flexi-School will be considered on its own merits and within its individual context.

Induction to school:

In order to ensure that our setting and flexi schooling arrangements are suited to both the school and you as parents /carers, your child will be offered a series of planned induction visits. These visits will be arranged between you and the Headteacher to meet the needs and expectations of both the child and our school.

After these induction sessions you can, if you or your child wishes, withdraw from the option of flexi-schooling for any reason without challenge. The school reserves the right to also withdraw from a flexi-schooling arrangement if it is felt that what we offer is not suited to you or your child needs. It may be that there are concerns about sufficient progress over time that deem a flexi-arrangement to be impeding expected attainment, in this case the agreement will be withdrawn. This also applies in terms of inadequate parental engagement with suggested home-based learning activities.

After the series of the induction sessions, both you and the Head will discuss and agree the attendance pattern of a minimum of three core days and at this point you will be asked to sign our Flexi-School agreement as set out below (Parts 1-4).

Each request to Flexi-school will be considered on its own merits and within its individual context.

Flexi-Schooling: Request Application (for new starters)

Academic year:

Date of request:

Start date:

Date of review:

Name of Child/ Date of Birth		
Name and address of parent(s)/ Carer(s)		
Reason for Flexi-Schooling Education	(e.g. Lifestyle, Philosophical, Bullying, Cultural, Religious, Additional Needs etc).	
Parents/ Carers Expectations of entering into a Flexi-School agreement with Great Budworth Primary School		
Child's achievements, skills, hobbies, interests, activities, levels of attainment if applicable.		
Does the child named in this document have a statement of Educational Need or Education Health and Care Plan?		
Forms in which work from home will be shared with school. <small>(highlight which method is preferred)</small>	Written- workbook/journal Electronic- Weekly emails	
Other Information Parents/ Carers wish to share:		
I / We have read the Flexi-schooling policy provided by the school and we agree to uphold our part in the flexi-schooling provision.	Print Name(s) Signed (Parent/ Carer(s): Print Name and Signed by Head: Date:	
I / We understand that parents / carers retain responsibility for their child's health care		
I / We understand that parents / carers retain full responsibility for child's safety when not on school premises and whilst under parental care. We agree to support the school in undertaking a risk assessment of our Home education location.		
I / We will if our child is unable to attend on the agreed days, call the school office to confirm the reason for absence		
I / We understand that a portfolio of work completed at home will be kept by the parent / carer but that it will be shared with teaching staff.		
This arrangement can be reviewed should either party express concerns that the Flexi-schooling option is not benefiting the development of the child named. All elements of this document are subject to Ofsted / DfE guidance and Statutory Duty, along with all future UK /European Law.		

Flexi-Schooling Agreement:

Attendance

Part 1- Agreed Attendance Schedule:

Full days Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

- Attendance on additional days is welcomed - please try to give at least five school days notice.
- Any additional flexibility to attend activities out of school, must be agreed in advance and must not take the week's attendance to below 60%. Attendance on an alternative day for that week can be agreed.
- Where there is a special event such as a visitor in school or a school trip, your child will always be invited to attend as additional sessions if this falls outside their normal attendance pattern. It is strongly recommended that your child attends such events as additional benefits include greater integration and acceptance with and acceptance by his/her peers and helps to ensure that your child being an active participant in school life.
- It is expected that when working at home your child will follow relevant educational activities.
- All elements of this document are subject to Ofsted / DfE guidance and Statutory Duty, along with all future UK and European Law.

Flexi-Schooling: Whilst in School

Part 2 – The School's Responsibilities

Our school is part of the current state-maintained system of education. Parents / carers need to be aware that whilst we endeavour to be accommodating, we are required to follow the National Curriculum.

Great Budworth C of E Primary School is responsible for the education of the above named child on the sessions set out in the above '**Agreed Attendance Schedule**'.

The educational provision will be suitable to the above named child's age; aptitude and ability as set out in **Section 7 of the Educational Act 1996** and will include:

- access to school educational visits and visitors to the school
- assessment
- access to the National Curriculum whilst in school (and at home if required)

As the named (Parent) responsible adult(s) - I / we accept that whilst the named child is in the care of the school that the school is acting in 'loco parentis', giving the school primary responsibility for their safety and welfare during this time. In the event of any incident however the parents are always informed and consulted with.

Whilst away from school and in the care of the parent, or parent's nominated carer, the parent is responsible for all matters that relate to Health, Safeguarding and Child Protection.

Parents can expect to meet with the class teacher (and if required the Headteacher) at least once every term to review your child's progress and review the attendance agreement if required.

Education Health Care Plans (EHCP)

We are more than willing to accept children with a funded EHCP if the school can fulfil those needs. However, they will be required to attend on a full-time formal basis unless the EHCP clearly states that Flexi-Schooling is the funding body's preferred option. The same will apply to children who currently attend on a Flexi-school basis and are found to need the support offered by such an arrangement.

If the school determines that a child registered for flexi-schooling requires an EHCP, this will be brought to the attention of the Parent(s) / Carer(s) with a view to making the best provision possible.

In the event of determining that an EHCP is required, this Flexi-Schooling arrangement may cease, and the named child will be required (unless the EHCP states otherwise) to attend school on a full-time basis so that we (the school) can fulfil our Statutory Duty. The school can withdraw from this agreement at any time by giving reasonable notice in writing, appropriate to the circumstances, but no greater than one school term.

Flexi-Schooling: At Home/Out of School arrangements

Part 3 – Parental Responsibilities

This section relates to **ALL** activities away from School arranged by parents / carers, whilst the named child is in the care of their parent(s), or where additional provision, with a third party beyond the care of school staff has been arranged.

This might include - Peripatetic Tutors, Sports Coaching, Swimming lessons, all types of High-Risk pursuits or other similar arrangements.

As the above-named responsible adult(s) - I / we;

- are willing to satisfy the basic Safeguarding, Health and Safety standards when they are not attending the school.
- are responsible for the education of the above-named child when they are not attending school on the days and times set out in the attached 'Agreed Attendance Schedule'
- will, if our child is unable to attend on the agreed dates / days, call or e-mail the school to confirm a reason for the absence as per usual procedure

- accept that, I / we are entirely responsible for the educational provision offered and delivered to our child when they are not in school
- accept that whilst away from the care and guidance of school staff, I / we will have the primary and sole responsibility for the above-named child's, safety and welfare
- understand that if the child named on this document is found to need an EHCP, that this flexischooling arrangement will end and the named child will be required to attend school on a full-time basis (Exemptions will only be considered if a signed letter is obtained from the Local Authority/funding body, co firming that the flexi schooling approach is acceptable to them and will be of benefit to the child)
- I / we understand that notice to withdraw from this agreement must be given in writing.

Flexi-School: Safeguarding and Child Protection

Part 4 – Core Requirement

As part of the Flexi-Schooling arrangement, it is necessary for our school to satisfy the Safeguarding and Child Protection requirements of Ofsted, DfE and the LA. Therefore parents / carers will be required to accept visits from a nominated member of staff where deemed necessary. The focus of such visits will focus on all aspects of the home or third party environment, covering all areas of the educational provision available, through to safeguarding and child protection including any concerns raised.

Unexplained Absence

In the event that we are unable to contact with you as parents, or you refuse contact / attendance when requested, the flexi-schooling agreement will cease, the named child will be removed from the school roll and the Local Authority will be notified of our actions and / or concern(s).

Please note that we are legally obligated to report any issue of Child Safeguarding/Protection and welfare

I agree to all school policies and procedures and directives e.g attendance policy

I can confirm that I have read and understood Parts 1- 4 of the agreement above.

Parent(s) / Carer(s)

Signed:

Print Name:

Dated:

Head of School/ Executive Headteacher

Signed:

Print Name:

Dated:

Flexi-School: **Information exchange**

- Initial Meeting for a Confidential Parent and Teacher Assessment
- Termly meetings
- * **To be completed by School Staff**

Name of Child:

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

Date	Work Seen/ Evidence Presented	Achievements Successes Concerns	Next Steps/ Recommendations	Review of success of Flexi-Schooling
	Written/ Verbal/ electronic/ other			
	Written/ Verbal/ electronic/ other			
	Written/ Verbal/ electronic/ other			

Signature(s)

Parent/

Carer(s).....

Date: