

## PRESTON MANOR SCHOOL

Upper School Site: Carlton Avenue East, Wembley, HA9 8NA  
Head of Upper School: Mr. Tom Phillips  
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Lower School site: Princess Avenue (off Carlton Avenue East), Wembley, HA9 8LZ  
Head of Lower School: Mr. Kevin Atkinson  
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**Executive Headteacher:** Mr. Russell Denial | Website: www.preston-manor.com



3 February 2026

### Successful Parent and School Relationships

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have never been one to preach to our parent body, however, following a number of interactions that I have had with parents over the past few weeks, I feel obliged to write to all parents in order to clarify what a successful relationship between parents and school looks like for the benefit and academic success of our children. To be successful, the school and the parents have responsibilities that they need to meet.

A successful parent school relationship is based on relationships and trust. Trust is something that needs to be gained and worked on continuously. It is something that I believe we have done really successfully over the past 10 years. This trust can be seen through the relationships that staff build with parents, the free clubs and booster sessions that the teachers run after school, the above national SATs results that we achieve and the many and varied interventions and support that we run and offer families. I feel that the school has a proven track record of academic success and this more than suggests that we have a fair idea of what children need in order to be academically successful.

Considering the above, I feel that it would be beneficial for me to clarify the responsibilities of the school and the parents in order to further improve the working relationship.

The school's job is to ensure the best academic provision that allows all children to be academically successful. Added to that, we ensure the best possible pastoral care (Holistic well-being - emotional, social, mental and physical support) that allows our children to grow into successful teenagers, who can manage the rigours of life and be successful.

In order to do the above, we need parents to play their part as well. Where a child has not met our academic or behavioural expectations, there will be consequences for that child. We need parents to support our decisions rather than make excuses for their children or defend them when they are in the wrong. This is not helping our children when we do this. The child is not learning to take responsibility and ownership of their choices, and if they don't learn how to do this, they never will. They will grow up to be adults who can't take responsibility for their choices, or who will make excuses for the choices they made rather than accepting responsibility and doing a better job next time. All children push boundaries to see where that boundary ends and where the consequence for their actions lie. This helps children to feel safe and secure within those boundaries. If we don't hold firm on these boundaries then the school and parents are robbing their children of the security that they need to establish in order to feel safe and help them to become successful.

Therefore, if a child does not complete their home learning by the deadline, they will be kept in to finish it.

If they haven't learnt their spellings, they will be kept in to learn them.

If they haven't read every week day, they will be kept in to read.

If they haven't completed their learning in lessons, they will be kept in to complete their learning.

If they haven't met our behaviour expectations, they will be kept in to talk about this.

We do the above to enforce boundaries so children: know where they stand, know what the expectations are, know what the consequences are, learn to take responsibility for their actions, can be successful, and most importantly, so they can feel safe.

Please do not rob them of being able to feel safe and secure knowing where the boundaries are. Children, who don't feel safe and secure or don't know where the boundary limit is, will continue to push until they find it. This can lead to riskier and riskier behaviour or less academic success because children will spend more time searching for the boundary limits rather than focussing on their learning.

Thank you to all the parents who fully support the school by fulfilling their role in the parent/school partnership which will ensure that our children grow up to be successful adults.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K Atkinson', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr K Atkinson

Head of Lower School