



What a great AGFS parent/carer does...

Parental involvement in a child's schooling upto the age of 16 is a powerful force which is strongly linked to educational achievement

(Department for Education)

Parents often ask us, "how can I best support my child from home?" Getting the balance right between promoting independence and supporting your child is critical. We hold children to account because we care enough to take action. Experience tells us that the most successful AGFS scholars are supported by parents/carers who do the following things:

1. **Be ambitious for your child.** Fill your child with a sense of belief and self-confidence every day. Be a proud parent. Talk positively about their future and engage with our careers service. With your support and guidance they can achieve great things!
2. **Set clear rules and boundaries - especially on access to computer games, mobile phones and social media** before bedtime. Ensure your child is in bed by 21:30 on school nights (without access to computers or a mobile phone) and that they have plenty of digital downtime. Promote a healthy lifestyle including eating breakfast before school, taking daily exercise outdoors, after school clubs and spending time with family and friends.
3. **Ensure your child attends school on time every day.** Absenteeism leads to underachievement. Scholars must arrive no later than 08:20 daily. You wouldn't be permitted to arrive late for work so we have a duty to take punctuality seriously.
4. **Be prepared for school.** Scholars must take responsibility for organising their uniform, stationery, PE kit, and reading book: <https://arkgreenwichfreeschool.org/sites/default/files/Equipment%2olist-%202020.pdf>. Great parents keep a watchful eye to ensure their children are well prepared for school, including wearing a coat when it's cold outside.
5. **Promote a love of reading.** Take the time to discover the magic of books by reading aloud with your child, talking to your child about the book you are reading or the book you enjoyed as a child. Role model reading to your child.
6. **Talk to your child about their schooling.** Ask them to show you their work books, teacher feedback, Quizlet tasks and discuss any upcoming assessments and academic reports. Always promote a growth mindset and be solutions focused.
7. **Prepare a workspace at home.** Ensure your child has access to a calm and quiet space to complete their independent study and revision at home. Contact the form tutor if your child would like to access our after school homework club. Support your child to develop a revision timetable in the build up to termly examinations.
8. **Attend school events and parents evenings to support your child.** Supporting your child at parents evening and other school events shows them that you care. If you can't make it, send another family member or friend.
9. **Take note of all school communications.** Monitor the school website, emails, text messages, and twitter accounts for regular updates. Take note of key dates and always communicate with the school in a polite and respectful manner. Keep in regular contact with your child's form tutor as a first point of contact.
10. **Uphold and promote the school's behaviour policy.** We can make a difference to children's lives by having sky high expectations of them. A sanction (detention) will be issued because our teachers care enough to never ignore low standards - even if the issue seems small or insignificant at first. The detail matters - we call it 'sweating the small stuff so the big stuff doesn't happen'. Remember, a mistake does not define you, it is an opportunity to learn and grow. Don't fight us - work with us!



Checklist

1. Regularly praise your child and promote a growth mindset.	
2. Talk to your child about their future and engage with AGFS careers and post-16.	
3. Have clear rules and boundaries for 21:30 lights out.	
4. Have an established morning routine including breakfast and setting off on time.	
5. Facilitate long periods of digital downtime and/or remove devices altogether.	
6. Spend time outside with your child exercising with friends and family.	
7. Promote good organisation including school stationery, PE kit and coat.	
8. Read with your child and role model reading.	
9. Regularly check your child's school work and discuss upcoming assessments/key dates.	
10. Be ready to attend school events for your child including parents evenings.	
11. Read all school communications and ensure your details are in date - <i>download the parent Xpressions App to translate school communications into your language.</i>	
12. Be in regular contact with your child's form tutor as a first port of call.	
13. Be prepared to stand with the school to uphold all behaviour policies, standards and expectations because we care. The small details matter.	