



STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The School

a) **The School** is Elizabeth College which includes the Senior Division known as the Upper School, and the Junior School incorporating Beechwood (Preparatory) and Acorn House (Pre-School & Pre-Preparatory) acting by the Governing Body as now or in the future constituted. It is assumed that a pupil will, subject to conduct and academic ability, progress through the School and complete the Upper Sixth year.

b) **The Principal** is the person appointed by the School to be responsible for the pupil and includes those to whom any of the duties of the Principal or the School have been responsibly delegated and includes the School Medical Officer whenever appropriate.

c) **The Parent/s** are those who have parental responsibility for the pupil and those referred to at clause 4 c) of these terms and conditions individually and jointly. Parents are expected to give their support and encouragement to the aims of the School and to uphold and promote its good name; to continue the pupil's education at home and to ensure that the pupil maintains appropriate standards of punctuality, behaviour, diligence, language, discipline and dress.

d) **Our Aims:** The aims of the School are described in the Prospectus. The School aims to strike the balance between academic work, physical education, moral and spiritual development and the pursuit of a wide range of non-academic activities. We are committed to high standards of teaching and care and we welcome parental contact. The School is an environment in which pupils are encouraged to participate in work and activities with enthusiasm and commitment and to behave with tolerance and understanding, respecting the needs of others.

e) **Changes at the School:** A successful school must initiate and respond to change. The offer of a place and its acceptance are given on the basis that, in the interests of the School as a whole, reasonable changes may be made from time to time to these standard terms and conditions, to the size and location of the School, to its premises and facilities, to the academic and non-academic curriculum, to

the structure and composition of classes, to the way the School is run, to the Regulations and disciplinary framework, to the length of the school terms and the school day and to any other aspect of the School. Fee levels will be reviewed each year and there will be reasonable increases from time to time. If the ownership or legal status of the School changes, the School's rights and obligations under these Terms and Conditions will be deemed assigned to the new entity. Parents would be consulted and/or given adequate notice of any significant proposals or change of policy likely to affect the school community as a whole.

f) **The Standard Terms and Conditions.** We believe that these standard terms and conditions reflect the customs and practice of independent schools for many generations. The rules about change and about notice and fees in lieu of notice and the other rules set out below are provided in good faith. They promote the stability, forward-planning, proper resourcing and development of the School. Any waiver is effective only if given in writing by the Principal personally. The *Fees List* and the *School Regulations*, as varied from time to time, are part of these Terms and Conditions. Nothing in these Terms and Conditions affects the statutory rights of parents.

g) **Definitions.**

a. In these terms and conditions "Acceptance Form" means the form provided by the College for parents to complete when accepting a place for their child at the College.

2. Care and Good Discipline

a) **Parents' Authority:** The parents authorise the Principal while *in loco parentis* or acting on behalf of a pupil who has reached the age of 16, to take and/or authorise in good faith all decisions that safeguard and promote the pupil's welfare. Parents give consent to such physical contact as may be lawful, appropriate and proper for teaching and for providing comfort to a pupil in distress or to maintain safety and good order or in connection with the pupil's health. (Corporal punishment is *not* used.) If it is necessary for the pupil's welfare and if parents cannot be contacted in



time, the Principal may also consent on behalf of the parents to the pupil receiving emergency medical treatment including blood transfusions within the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom, general anaesthetic and operations at the Princess Elizabeth Hospital or under NHS or at a private hospital where certified by a person who is appropriately qualified.

- b) **Conduct and Attendance:** We attach importance to courtesy, integrity, manners and good discipline. The pupil is expected to take a full part in the activities of the School, to be punctual, to work hard, to be well behaved and to comply with the School Regulations about the wearing of uniform.
- c) **The Pupil's Health:** The Principal may at any time require a medical opinion or certificate as to the pupil's general health. The age of the pupil will be calculated in accordance with Guernsey custom. Parents will be asked to complete a form of medical declaration concerning the pupil's health and must inform the Principal in writing if the pupil develops any known medical condition, health problem or allergy or will be unable to take part in games or sporting activities or has been in contact with infectious diseases.
- d) **Conduct of the School:** The Principal is responsible for the care and good discipline of pupils while they are in the charge of the School or its staff and for the day to day running of the School and the curriculum. The Principal is responsible also for the imposition of any sanction including exclusion for non-payment of fees, suspension during investigation or following a breach of school discipline, and removal or expulsion under clause 6 below. The Principal is not responsible, unless negligent, for a pupil who is absent from the School in breach of school discipline. It is a condition of remaining at the School that parents and the pupil (including a pupil aged 16+ and 18+) accept the school regime and the Regulations as to appearance and dress and the rules of school discipline that apply from time to time.
- e) **The School Regulations:** Each pupil is supplied with a copy of the School Regulations giving information about the ethos and rules at the School. The purpose of the School Regulations is to help every pupil to know what is expected and to encourage courtesy and consideration for others. Each

pupil *and parent* should read the School Regulations.

3. Admission and Entry to School

- a) **Registration:** Pupils will be considered as candidates for admission and entry to the School when the Registration Form has been completed and returned to us and the non-returnable registration fee paid. Admission and entry will be subject to the availability of a place and the pupil satisfying the admission requirements at the time. Assessment for entry at age 11 is by entrance examination. At 16 pupils may enter the Sixth Form providing they have achieved a satisfactory performance at GCSE level. Pupils seeking admission to College at other ages will be required to sit an entrance test.

- b) When registrations exceed available places, applications will be considered in the following order:-

a. Those coming from Acorn House to Beechwood or Beechwood to the Upper School.

b. Those who have brothers or sisters either in the school or entered for any of its departments.

c. Those who are sons or daughters of Old Elizabethans.

d. Chronological order of application to the school.

The cut off date for entry being received is 12 months before the planned date for entry into the school. Those who apply after this time will receive no priority even if they fulfil one of the first three criteria.

- c) **Offer of a Place and Deposit/s:** If, in due course, a place is offered, the deposit/s will be payable when parents accept the offer. Where a deposit is required it will be repaid by means of a credit without interest to the payment of the fees for the first term. Until credited it will form part of the general funds of the School.

- d) **Moving from Acorn House to Beechwood or Beechwood to the Upper School:** A pupil who is moving from Acorn House to Beechwood or



Beechwood to Upper School will be required to show an ability to cope with the next stage of College education.

- e) **A Level Course:** It is assumed that a pupil who is planning to take A levels will continue into the Sixth Form at the College providing he/she is able to fulfil the entry requirements

4. Fees and Extras

- a) **Items Covered:** *Fees* cover the normal curriculum together with most books and stationery. Other items incurred by the School or the pupil may be charged as *Extras*. The pupil is for these purposes agent of the parents. *Damage* done by a pupil, other than fair wear and tear, may be separately invoiced and must be paid as an extra.

- b) **Payment of fees and extras:** Payment must be made by Direct Debit. The invoiced amount will be collected on or about the first day of term. A pupil may be excluded from the School at any time when fees are unpaid and will be *deemed withdrawn* without notice 28 days after exclusion. (Then a term's fees in lieu of notice will be payable.) The School is agent only in respect of any goods and services which are supplied by a third party via the School to pupils or their parents. Fees will not be refunded or waived for absence through sickness; or if a term is shortened or a vacation extended; or if a pupil is released home after public examinations or otherwise before the normal end of term; or for any other cause except in the sole discretion of the Principal.

- c) **Responsibility for payment:** Fees are the joint and several responsibility of each person who has signed the Acceptance Form or who has parental responsibility (not including carers) for the pupil or has paid any fees or has returned the pupil to the School or given instructions in relation to the pupil. The School may withhold any information or property while fees are unpaid.

- d) **Payment of fees by a third party:** An agreement with a third party to pay the fees or any other sum due to the School does not release parents from any liability under these terms and conditions unless an express release has been given in writing signed by the Bursar. The School reserves the right to refuse a payment from a third party. All such payments received are accepted in good faith.

- e) **Late Payment:** The right is reserved to make late payment charges composed of 5% on outstanding fees and charges after 30 days, from the first day of each term, and all administration and legal costs in relation to any sums that are unpaid by the due date. It is agreed that the amount of all late payment charges should reflect the commercial rates that would be applied by a financial institution in a case of unauthorised and unsecured borrowing. Such charges will be recoverable by action if necessary. Cheques delivered at any time after the first day of term will be presented immediately and will not be considered as payment until cleared. Any sum tendered that is less than the sum due and owing may in any event be accepted by the School on account only. The contents of clauses 4 and 5 of these terms and conditions are intended to protect those parents who pay fees on time and to safeguard the School against consequences of the defaults of others.

- f) **Scholarships and Bursaries:** Every scholarship and bursary is subject to high standards of behaviour, attendance and work.

- g) **Instalment arrangements:** An agreement by the School to accept payment of fees by monthly Direct Debit or any other instalment arrangement for the payment of fees is concessionary. In the event of a direct debit or any other payment being refused or returned, the School will immediately write to the parents requesting payment by cheque of the amount plus an administration charge and any other fees, bank charges, costs or expenses that might be incurred due to the Direct Debit or payment being refused or returned. This cheque must be received by the College within ten days of the date of the request for payment and if payment is not received within this period or not successfully processed through the banking system the College will cancel the instalment arrangement and immediately take action to collect all outstanding fees.

5. Events Requiring Notice in Writing

- a) **Definitions**

Notice to be given by parents means (unless the contrary is stated in these terms and conditions) a term's written notice addressed to and actually received by the Principal. No



other notice will suffice. Notices must be hand delivered or sent by recorded or guaranteed delivery post to the school address.

Provisional Notice is valid only for the term in which it is given and only when written and accepted in writing by the Principal.

Term means the period between and including the first and last days of each school term.

A *Term's Notice* means notice given before the first day of term and expiring at the end of term. *Half a Term's Notice* means notice given before the first day of term expiring at half term, or notice given before half term expiring at the end of term.

Fees in lieu (of notice) means fees in full for the term of notice at the rate that would have applied had the pupil attended and is not limited to the parental contribution in the case of a scholarship or bursary.

- b) **Cancelling Acceptance:** A term's fees (less deposit/s held) will be payable by the parents if, for any reason, they cancel their acceptance of a place less than a term before entry or the pupil does not join the School after a place has been accepted. Parents who withdraw giving a full term's notice before entry will not have to pay fees in lieu but the deposit will be retained by the School. Cases of serious illness or genuine hardship may receive special consideration on written request.
- c) **Withdrawal from the School:** Half a term's notice must be given before a pupil is withdrawn from the School except for those who leave immediately after GCSE or half a term's fees in lieu will be due and payable as a debt at the rate applicable on the date of invoice whether or not the place can be filled. The pupil's decision to withdraw from the School shall, for these purposes, be treated as a withdrawal by the parents. The *School Year* is deemed to start on 1 September in each year. The main reason for these rules is to ensure that the School has sufficient notice with which to plan fee levels, other resources and the curriculum.
- d) **Discontinuing Extras:** Half a term's written notice is required to discontinue an extra or half a term's fees for the extra will be payable in lieu as a debt.

- e) **Notice by the School:** The School may terminate this agreement on one term's written notice sent by ordinary post and otherwise under clauses 6 a) and b) below.

6. Removal and Expulsion of a Pupil

- a) **Removal at the Request of the School:** Parents may be required, during or at the end of a term, to remove the pupil, without refund of fees, temporarily or permanently from the School if, after consultation with a parent, the Principal is of the opinion that the conduct or progress of the pupil has been unsatisfactory or if the pupil, in the judgement of the Principal, is unwilling or unable to profit from the educational opportunities offered (or a parent has treated the School or members of its staff unreasonably) and in any such case removal is considered to be warranted. In the event of removal from the School fees in lieu of notice will not be charged but all outstanding fees will be payable in full.
- b) **Expulsion:** A pupil may be expelled at any time if the Principal is reasonably satisfied that the pupil's conduct (whether on or off school premises and whether in or out of term time) has been prejudicial to good order or school discipline or to the reputation of the School. The Principal will act fairly and in accordance with the procedures of natural justice and will not expel a pupil other than in grave circumstances. There will be no refund of fees following expulsion (and all unpaid fees must be paid). Fees in lieu of notice will not be charged.
- c) **Discretion of Principal:** The decision to exclude, suspend or require removal of or expel a pupil and the manner and form of any announcement shall be in the sole discretion of the Principal. In no circumstances shall the School or its staff be required to divulge to parent/s or others any confidential information or the identities of pupils or others who have given information which has led to suspension, the requirement to remove or expulsion or which the Principal has acquired during an investigation.
- d) **Review:** In the event of expulsion or of a pupil's removal being required, written application for a review of the decision may be made to the Board of Directors. Such an application must be received within 7 days of the expulsion or removal.



- e) **Access:** A pupil who has been withdrawn, excluded, suspended, removed or expelled from the School has no right to enter school premises without the written permission of the Principal.

7. Carers

- a) Parents living outside Guernsey must advise the School of the name and address of the carer with whom the pupil resides during term time. The parents must ensure that the carer obtains all necessary permissions from the States Children Board or other relevant authority. Although the school may maintain a list of persons willing to act as carer, the School can offer no advice and accept no responsibility for advising where a pupil should reside.
- b) Unless the School is advised otherwise, the School will assume that the carer has parental responsibility and is acting in loco parentis; that the carer is responsible for the pupil at all times when the pupil is not at school; and that the carer can come to the School, if necessary at short notice, when required by the Principal to do so.

8. General Conditions

- a) **Special Precautions:** The Principal needs to be aware of any matters that are relevant to the pupil's security and safety. The Principal must therefore be notified in writing immediately of any court orders or situations of risk in relation to a pupil for whom any special safety precautions may be needed. A parent may be excluded from school premises if the Principal, acting in a proper manner, considers such exclusion to be in the best interests of the pupil or of the School.
- b) **Leaving School Premises:** The School is unable to guarantee that pupils, in breach of School rules, will not leave the school premises during the school day. In the case of students aged 16 and over, the School is not legally entitled physically to restrict their movements.
- c) **Residence during Term Time:** The Principal must be notified in writing immediately if a pupil will be residing other than with a person or carer who has parental responsibility.
- d) **Absence of Parents:** When both parents will be absent from the pupil's home for a 24 hour period or longer, the School

requires, in writing, the name, address and telephone number for 24 hour contact of the adult to whom parental responsibility has been delegated *in loco parentis*.

- e) **Liability and Insurances:** The School does not, unless shown to be negligent, accept responsibility for accidental injury or loss of property. The School undertakes to maintain those insurances which are prescribed by law. All other insurances are the responsibility of parents including insurance of the pupil's personal property whilst at school or on the way to or from school or on any school sponsored activity away from the School. The School is not the agent of the parents for any purpose related to insurance.
- f) **Pupils' Personal Property:** Pupils are responsible for the security and safe use of all personal property and are responsible for ensuring that all such property is clearly marked with the owner's name. A pupil may not bring any item of equipment on to school premises which runs off mains electricity without the prior written permission of the Principal or Bursar.
- g) **Concerns/Complaints:** Parents who have cause for serious concern as to matters of safety, care or quality of education must inform the Principal without delay.
- h) **Progress Reports:** The School monitors each pupil's progress and parents will receive formal reports at the times specified in the Curricular and Pastoral booklet.
- i) **Learning Difficulties:** Each pupil will be 'screened' for learning difficulties. Parents will be notified if it appears that formal assessment by an educational psychologist is advisable or the pupil is falling behind with studies. A formal assessment can be arranged by the School at the parents' expense, or by the parents. Our staff are not however qualified to make a medical diagnosis of conditions such as those commonly referred to as dyslexia or other learning difficulties. Parents will be asked to withdraw the pupil without being charged fees in lieu of notice if, in the opinion of the Principal, the School cannot provide adequately for a pupil's special educational needs.
- j) **Biological Samples:** The Principal may at any time when grounds for suspicion exist, require the pupil to give a biological sample under



- medical supervision to test for the use of illegal drugs or other substances damaging to health. Such sample will not form part of the pupil's permanent medical record. The details of when such tests may be demanded are set out in the school's drugs policy which forms part of the School Regulations
- k) **Confidentiality:** The School will take care to preserve the confidentiality of information concerning the pupil and parents. The parents, however, consent on behalf of themselves and the pupil to the School (through the Principal, as the person responsible) obtaining, holding, and communicating on a 'need -to-know' basis, confidential information which, in the opinion of the Principal, is material to the safety and welfare of the pupil and others, including a pupil aged 16 and over. The parents consent also to the School communicating with any other school which the pupil attends or which a parent proposes the pupil should attend about any matter concerning the pupil or about payment of fees, whether or not the information passing is also held in machine-readable form.
- l) **Examinations, Reports and References:** The School will enter a pupil's name for an examination if the Principal is satisfied that such is in the best interests of the pupil. Information supplied to parents and others concerning the progress and character of a pupil and about examination, further education and career prospects and any references will be given conscientiously and with all due care and skill but otherwise without liability on the part of the School. All references will be confidential. Where parents are separated or divorced, reported and other information will be sent to the person with whom the pupil normally resides.
- m) **Intellectual Property:** The School reserves all rights and interests in any intellectual property rights arising as a result of the actions of a pupil in conjunction with any member of staff of the School and/or other pupils at the School for a purpose associated with the School. Any use of any such intellectual property rights by a pupil is subject to the terms of a licence to be agreed prior to the use between the pupil, his/her parents and the School. The School will allow the pupil's role in creation/development of intellectual property rights to be acknowledged.
- n) **Prospectus:** The Prospectus describes the broad principles on which the School is presently run and gives an indication of our history and ethos. The Curricular and Pastoral booklet which is annually updated gives much greater detail. Although believed correct at the time of printing, these publications are not part of any agreement between the parents and the School. Parents wishing to place specific reliance on a matter contained in either of them should seek written confirmation of that matter before entering this agreement.
- o) **Consumer Protection:** Care has been taken to use plain language in these terms and conditions and to explain the reasons for any of the terms that may appear one-sided. If any word/s, alone or in combination, infringe any provision of law, they shall be treated as severable and shall be replaced with words which give as near the original meaning as may be fair.
- p) **Interpretation:** These terms and conditions supersede those in the prospectus and elsewhere and will be construed as a whole. Unless required to make sense of the immediate context, headings are for ease of reading only and are not otherwise part of the terms and conditions.
- q) **Jurisdiction:** This contract was made at the School and is governed exclusively by Guernsey Law.
9. **Entry Requirements for Elizabeth College Junior School (ECJS).** Acorn House does not assess children academically for entry to the Pre-School. However transfer from Pre-School to the Reception Year is on the recommendation of the Pre-School Curriculum Co-ordinator in consultation with the Head of Acorn House and parents. The child must show evidence that he or she has the ability to benefit from the academic education that ECJS offers, the intellectual potential to cope with the curriculum and the pace and standard of work. Weaker candidates may be offered places subject to the child receiving regular Learning Support for which a charge will normally be made. Concerns regarding transfer will be discussed with parents at the earliest opportunity. Children who have not attended Acorn House Pre-School who wish to join ECJS during Reception Year, Year 1 or Year 2 are asked to spend ½ day in school with the appropriate age group. During this time the



child will be assessed for Numeracy and Literacy and class teachers can observe their social skills. Pupils should bring work samples from their school from whom a written report will be requested. Places will be offered to those pupils who demonstrate the necessary potential. Children will normally transfer to Beechwood at 7 years of age. Pupils entering ECJS Beechwood in Year 3 to 6 also spend a morning in school for an assessment that comprises Numeracy, Literacy and Reasoning. Places are offered to those pupils who demonstrate the necessary potential with a view to attaining a place at the Upper School at the end of year 6. Priority for Registration will be given to those who attend Acorn House Pre-School. Other Registration criteria are as given in Paragraph 3.

- 10. Learning Support.** If a pupil's progress is causing concern, there will be a consultation between parents and teachers. A formal assessment by an educational psychologist or other external specialist can be arranged by the school. Following the investigations and if in the opinion of the Principal the school cannot provide adequately for a pupil's special educational needs, parents will be asked to seek alternative educational provision for their child. Any removal in these circumstances will not be subject to fees in lieu of notice.