

Connaught House School
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STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1 The School

- (a) **The School** is Connaught House School, acting by the principals Mrs J A Hampton and Mr F Hampton MA RCA.
- (b) **The Principals** are the persons responsible for the pupil and includes those to whom any of the duties of the Principals or the School have been responsibly delegated.
- (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. In addition, the School aims to strike the balance between academic and practical work, physical education, moral and spiritual development and the pursuit of leisure activities. We are committed to high standards of teaching and care and we welcome parental contact. The School is a private self-regulating community which respects the human rights of pupils and their parents, who in turn accept that the School's lawful policies, disciplines and rules must sometimes take precedence over the wishes of individuals. The School is an environment in which pupils are encouraged to participate in work and leisure activities with enthusiasm and commitment and to behave with tolerance and understanding, respecting the needs of others.
- (e) **Duration of the Contract:** It is assumed that a pupil will, subject to conduct and academic ability, progress through the School and in relation to girls achieve well at 11+. Parents must in every case give a terms notice if that is not their intention -

see para 5(c) as to the rules applying to withdrawal..

- (f) **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 curriculum and the structure and composition of classes and the way the School is run, to the rules 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 standard 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 members of the school community as a whole.
- (g) **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. They help also to protect parents from increases in fees and liabilities caused by the defaults of others. Any waiver is effective only if given in writing by the Principals personally. The Fees List and the School Rules, 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.

2 Care and Good Discipline

- (a) **Parents' Authority:** The parents authorise the Principals while in *loco parentis*, 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. The Principals may also consent on behalf of the parents to the pupil receiving emergency medical treatment including blood transfusions within the United Kingdom, general anaesthetic and operations under NHS or at a private hospital where certified by a person who is appropriately qualified, necessary for the pupil's welfare and if parents cannot be contacted in time.

- (b) **Conduct and Attendance:** We attach importance to courtesy, integrity, manners and good discipline. Parents warrant to give priority to all school commitments during term time and not to arrange holidays that will conflict with the term and that the pupil will attend each school day, will be punctual, will work hard, will be well behaved and will comply with the School Rules about the wearing of uniform. All pupils will receive health and life skills education appropriate to age in accordance with the curriculum from time to time.
- (c) **The Pupil's Health:** The Principals 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 UK custom. Parents may be asked to complete a form of medical declaration concerning the pupil's health and must inform the Principals 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 Principals are 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 Principals are 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.
- (e) **The School Rules:** Parents are supplied with a copy of the School Rules giving information about the ethos and rules at the School. The purpose of the School Rules is to help every pupil to know what is expected and to encourage courtesy and consideration for others. Parents should read the School Rules.

3 Admission and Entry to the 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 attending an informal assessment. The School operates an equal opportunities policy.
- (b) **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. Details of deposits are set out in the Fees List as varied from time to time. The Deposit will be repaid by means of a credit against the final terms account, on condition that:- (i) the child has attended at least 3 terms in the main school and did not leave at the end, or during any part of the reception year. (ii) Parents notify the School in writing by the first day of the final term. When circumstances are uncertain we strongly advise parents to give provisional notice. In these circumstances the credit will be applied as indicated above without interest to the final terms account or other sums due to the School on leaving. Until credited it will form part of the general funds of the School.

4 Fees and Extras

- (a) **Items Covered: Fees** cover the normal curriculum together with tuition, stationery, including non specialist pupil support during school hours, all meals, club sessions, school music requirements, normal school trips and transport.. Other items not included above and incurred by the School or the pupil may be charged as **Extras** will be notified to the parents..
- (b) **Payment of fees and extras:** Each invoice is due on or before the first day of term and must be paid in full either by cheque or direct bank transfer. There is also provision for parents to spread the cost of fees over the year if this is preferred. Details are

available on request and at the discretion of the School. 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 otherwise before the normal end of term; or for any other cause except in the sole discretion of the Principals.

- (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 for the pupil or has paid any fees or has returned the pupil to the School or given instructions in relation to the pupil.
- (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 Principals. 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 simple interest calculated on a daily basis at 1.5% per month, from the first day of each term, and all administration and legal costs (on an indemnity basis) 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) **Bursaries:** Every bursary is subject to high standards of behaviour, attendance and work. The terms of a bursary and in particular the terms upon which benefits may become repayable are set out in the offer letter (where applicable) to parents.]

5 Force Majeure

- 5.1 In this agreement "Force Majeure" shall mean any cause beyond a party's control (including for the avoidance of doubt strikes, other industrial disputes, acts of God, war, riot, civil commotion, compliance with any law or governmental order, rule, regulation, or direction (including that of a local authority), accident, fire, flood, storm, extreme weather, snow, pandemic or epidemic of any disease, terrorist attack, chemical or biological contamination).
- 5.2 In the event of a force majeure arising which prevents or delays the School's performance of any of its obligations under this agreement, the School shall forthwith give the Parents notice in writing specifying the nature and extent of the circumstances giving rise to the force majeure. Provided that the School has acted reasonably and prudently to prevent and minimise the effect of the force majeure, the School will have no liability in respect of the performance of such of its obligations as are prevented by the force majeure while it continues.
- 5.3 If the School is prevented from performance of its obligations for a continuous period greater than four months, the School shall notify the Parents of the steps it shall take to ensure performance of the agreement.

6 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 Principals. No other notice will suffice. Notice will not be deemed to have been received until acknowledged by the Principals. For the avoidance of doubt notice by e-mail is expressly excluded and will not be accepted by the School.**

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

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

A Term's Notice means written notice given no later than the first day of term and 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 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 immediately 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:** A term's notice must be given in writing before a pupil is withdrawn from the School or a full term's fees in lieu will be immediately due and payable as a debt at the rate applicable on the date of invoice whether or not the place can be filled. This rule also applies to the discontinuance of music lessons and any extra curricular lessons. The Principals reserve the right to ask a pupil to be removed. Further information about exclusion and the school's policy on behaviour are available on request. The school's policies on child protection and the complaints procedure are also available on request. 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) **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.

7 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 Principals are of the opinion that the conduct or progress of the pupil has been unsatisfactory or if the pupil, in the judgement of the Principals, 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. The Principals will act fairly and in accordance with the procedures of natural justice. The Deposit will be refunded in the event of removal from the School and 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 Principals are reasonably satisfied that the pupil's conduct has been prejudicial to good order or school discipline or to the reputation of the School. The Principals 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). The Deposit will not be returned/credited, but fees in lieu of notice will not be charged.

(c) **Discretion of Principals:** The decision to exclude, suspend or require removal or expel a pupil and the manner and form of any announcement shall be in the sole discretion of the Principals. In no circumstances shall the School or its staff be required to divulge to parents 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 Principals have acquired during an investigation.

(d) **[Appeal:** In the event of expulsion or of a pupil's removal being required, the Principals will advise parents of the procedure under which a written application for an appeal to the Principals against the decision may be made. This intention to appeal must be given in writing to the Principals within 5 days of the notification of expulsion.]

8 General Conditions

- (a) **Special Precautions:** The Principals need to be aware of any matters that are relevant to the pupil's security and safety. The Principals 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 Principals, acting in a proper manner, considers such exclusion to be in the best interests of the pupil or of the School.
- (b) **Residence during Term Time:** The Principals must be notified in writing immediately if a pupil will be residing other than with a person who has parental responsibility.
- (c) **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.
- (d) **Liability and Insurances:** The School does not, unless 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.
- (e) **Pupils' Personal Property:** Parents/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 pupil's name.
- (f) **Concerns/Complaints:** Parents who have cause for serious concern as to a matter of safety, care or quality of education must inform the Principals without delay.
- (g) **Progress Reports:** The School monitors each pupil's progress and parents will receive a formal written report on the pupil twice yearly, as well as interim grade reports in in the Autumn term .
- (h) **Learning Difficulties:** Each new pupil will be 'screened' for visual or hearing problems during the first term at the School.. 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.
- (i) **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 Principals, as the persons responsible) obtaining, holding, using and communicating, on a 'need-to-know' basis, confidential information which, in the opinion of the Principals, is material to the safety and welfare of the pupil and others. 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.
- (j) **Examinations, Reports and References:** Information supplied to parents and others concerning the progress and character of a pupil and about examination and any references will be given conscientiously and with all due care and skill but otherwise without liability on the part of the School. Where parents are separated or divorced, reports and other information will be sent to the person with whom the pupil normally resides. Duplicate reports will be sent only at the written request of both parents. Parents are given the opportunity to register their children for entrance examinations to the preparatory and senior schools. The School will guide parents as to a suitable choice of senior school.
- (k) **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, pupil/s parents and the School. The School will allow the pupil's role in creation/development of intellectual property rights to be acknowledged.

- (l) **Promotional Material:** The School reserves (unless expressly advised to the contrary by the parents) the right to use a pupil's photograph in any promotional publication (printed or electronic) produced by them.
- (m) **Prospectus:** The prospectus describes the broad principles on which the School is presently run and gives an indication of our history and ethos. Although believed correct at the time of printing, the prospectus is not part of any agreement between the parents and the School. Parents wishing to place specific reliance on a matter contained in the prospectus should seek written confirmation of that matter before entering this agreement.
- (n) **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 the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations 1999 or any other 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.

- (o) **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.
- (p) **Jurisdiction:** This contract was made at the School and is governed exclusively by English Law.

Connaught House School Limited
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Registered in England No. 00605296