



Terms and Conditions of Student Sponsorship

1. Preferred payment methods for student sponsorships are:
 - Direct Deposit - bank details are provided on your invoice.
 - Through the GiveNow portal, accessed via the online facility on our website, (<https://ourrainbowhouse.org.au/sponsor/>)
 - Using the Stripe option on your invoice.Tax deductible receipts will be provided for all student sponsorship donations.
2. Annual or monthly payment plans are available.
3. The Sponsorship calendar will commence on 1st January, for a 12-month period. In the event that you sponsor a child mid-year, your invoice will be adjusted accordingly to reflect an adjusted sponsorship period.
4. Reminders will be issued annually to sponsors in November, advising of due sponsorship fees for the following calendar year.
5. To best serve the educational needs of the students, sponsors are encouraged to have an ongoing financial commitment of at least 3 years.
6. The sponsor will be advised of any changes likely to affect sponsorship commitments, i.e. child no longer attending the school.
7. Should your sponsor student leave the school, we will endeavour to transfer your sponsorship to another student, however, please understand that this money has already gone to the school and is **non-refundable**.
8. The sponsor will advise Our Rainbow House in writing of any changes they wish to make to the sponsorship arrangements. However, in the interest of the students, refunds of sponsorship will not be given.
9. The sponsor will ensure that Our Rainbow House is advised of change of contact details. All details of the sponsor will remain confidential as per our Privacy Policy.
10. The Board reserves the right to deny sponsorship applications and donations for any reason.
11. Whilst Our Rainbow House appreciates supporters using images of our students, staff and school to "spread the word" about our charity, we reserve the right to ask you to withdraw any photos from the internet if they are deemed to be inappropriate or breach any of our policies.
12. The sponsor agrees to abide by *Our Rainbow House Confidentiality Policy, Child Protection Policy and Procedure, Child Protection Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Vulnerable People Policy and Procedure*. (Available on our website).

Please see the following important extract from *Our Rainbow House Child Protection Policy and Procedure* regarding sponsor responsibilities, communicating with your sponsored students, and gift giving.

The following is an excerpt from the *Our Rainbow House Child Protection Policy and Procedure* available at www.ourrainbowhouse.org.au/governance.

Sponsors, Donors and Visitors

Sponsors, donors and visitors who engage with Our Rainbow House programs, beneficiaries or communities are expected to:

- comply with this policy and any related safeguarding requirements communicated by Our Rainbow House;
- maintain appropriate boundaries and respectful behaviour;
- ensure all correspondence with children occurs through approved Our Rainbow House channels;
- refrain from direct, private, or unsupervised contact with children, including current and formerly sponsored children;
- not exchanging personal contact details or communicate with children through personal communication channels, including social media, messaging applications, email, or telephone;
- respecting the privacy, dignity, and safety of children and their families;
- complying with organisational requirements relating to correspondence, gifts, photographs, and visits;
- reporting any child protection concerns, disclosures, suspicions, or inappropriate behaviour involving children to Our Rainbow House; and
- supporting a child-safe culture that prioritises the best interests, safety, and wellbeing of children

Communications between children and adults of influence:

Our Rainbow House recognises that the relationships between adults of influence and children (as defined in the policy) can be complex and potentially pose a child protection risk. Harm to children can be caused intentionally by offenders who target organisations that work with children, or unintentionally by well-meaning supporters who don't understand the boundaries required to keep children safe.

We recognise the need to implement specific guidelines to manage the child protection risks in the relationships between children and adults of influence associated with Our Rainbow House.

- All representatives of Our Rainbow House, sponsors and visitors to the school are required to abide by the *Child Protection Policy and Procedure* and the *Child Protection Code of Conduct*.
- All correspondence between adults of influence and children must be facilitated and monitored through approved and supervised organisational channels (as defined in the policy). All incoming and outgoing correspondence will be reviewed prior to delivery and may be censored where necessary to ensure appropriateness. Correspondence containing political or religious content, or other material deemed inappropriate, is not permitted. Sponsor correspondence must be sent via the Sponsorship Coordinator or Project Coordinator for delivery. Student correspondence must be reviewed by the Project Coordinator and forwarded via the Student Sponsorship Coordinator, Director or a delegated board member for delivery.

- All contact between children and adults of influence—including staff, board members, volunteers, visitors, sponsors, contractors and partners—must occur through approved and supervised organisational channels (as defined in the policy). Under no circumstances are adults of influence permitted to initiate or enter into private arrangements, including meetings or direct communication, exchanging personal contact details (such as phone numbers, email or addresses), or interacting via personal social media or online platforms, with children.
- Children must not be invited to leave, or taken away from, their communities. Personal invitations by adults of influence to visit their home or country are not permitted.
- Any instances of unauthorised contact between children and adults of influence (either from the child, or from an adult to a child) should be reported immediately. (Please see *Reporting Procedures – page 13*).

Gift Giving:

Gift Giving is an area that can exacerbate a power dynamic that already exists between adults of influence and children, and with a wealth inequity. It also creates capability for favouritism and grooming.

Gifts to individual students are not permitted, as this may create perceptions of favouritism or exclusion among children. However, we recognise that sponsors and volunteers may wish to express generosity and encourage this to be directed through approved group-based or program-wide contributions.

Sponsors and volunteers are requested to consult the Student Sponsorship Coordinator and Project Coordinator before buying any gifts for the students.

Any gifts given to students must be:

- Small and given equally to all students or;
- Given to the school for use of all students. (It may also be appropriate to provide storage for items);
- Approved by the Project Coordinator;
- Infrequent and earned by behaviour that is possible for all students or;
- Limited to “Hello” or “Goodbye” gifts;
- Non-monetary. Whilst donations to our charity are greatly appreciated, it is prohibited for any Australian volunteer or sponsor to give money directly to students or staff at Our Rainbow House School. Monetary donations may be made through the Our Rainbow House office (admin@ourrainbowhouse.org.au) or website (www.ourrainbowhouse.org.au).

Thank you so much for your generosity! We hope that your experience as a sponsor allows you to build a strong connection with your sponsored student, and that it is a rewarding experience for you both.