



*'All things are possible to those who believe.'*

# Parent and Carer Conduct Policy

## Introduction

We believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to learn and work. Behaviour that causes harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is contrary to the aims of the school.

## Aims

That all members of the school community treat each other with respect.

## Expectation

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community.
- That no members of staff, parents or children are the victims of abusive behaviour or open to threats from other adults on the school premises.
- Physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language verbal or written, to staff, governors, parents and carers, children and other users of the school premises will not be tolerated and will result in withdrawal of permission to be on school premises.
- Any parent who is asked to leave the school premises will have the right to appeal the decision by writing to the Chair of Governors.

Please note that incidents of rudeness will be logged with the Complaints Officer.

## Persons Causing Nuisance / Disturbance on School Premises

### Section 547 of the Education Act 1996

School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on school premises. However, in case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, school may ban parents from entering school.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist in removing the person concerned.

School is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

### Guidelines

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated towards any member of the school community:

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Threatening in any way, a member of staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or child or Governor.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including on social media) to or about anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff/governors at the school on Facebook or other sites
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards your own child.
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises.
- Dogs being brought on to the school premises. (other than guide dogs)

### Inappropriate use of Social Networking Sites

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Head teachers, school staff, and in some cases, other parents/pupils.

The Governors consider the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community.

Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, a member of the senior leadership

team, the Head teacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/children is found to be posting offensive, threatening libellous or defamatory comments on Face book, Twitter or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases we will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate, threaten or intimidate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

#### Unacceptable behaviour may result in the Police being informed

The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to abuse.

Parents have the right of appeal by writing to the Chair of Governors within ten days of permission to enter the school premises being withdrawn

#### Monitoring, Evaluation & Review

This policy was agreed by staff & governors during the summer term 2023 and will be reviewed as part of our Monitoring, Evaluation and Review Cycle.

## Appendix 1

### Procedure to address inappropriate behaviour by adults on the school site

We operate a 'zero tolerance' of the use of inappropriate behaviour anywhere on the school site. Inappropriate behaviour means disrespectful conduct towards people or property within the school site.

#### Our Policy states

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community
- That no members of staff, parents or children are the victims of abusive behaviour or open to threats from other adults on the school premises.

All staff and governors agree that any visitor found to be using inappropriate behaviour towards other adults or children should be dealt with using the following steps:

- **An individual approaches another child.** The individual will be spoken to immediately and the issue investigated by a school leader. This will be reported to the Head teacher and recorded. The individual will receive a warning letter.
- **A parent approaches another parent.** The parent should report this to a member of staff or a school leader. The offending parent will be spoken to as soon as possible after the incident and reminded that we have a zero tolerance approach to inappropriate behaviour. A letter will be given to the parent. This warns a parent that if it recurs they could be banned from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.
- **A parent approaches a member of staff.** This should be reported immediately to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. This will be investigated as soon as possible and the member of staff will be informed of the action taken. The parent/adult will be spoken to and given a warning letter. This warns a parent that if it recurs they could be banned from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.

#### Recurring inappropriate behaviour

If a parent continues to use inappropriate behaviour, the likely result, following an initial warning, will be a ban from the school site.

\*\*For 'parent' read for any adult/child or guardian who accompanies children onto the school.