



PARENTAL & VISITOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Date:	Jan 2023
Next Review due:	Jan 2024

Rationale:

The vast majority of parents and other adults we work with are hugely supportive of the school, its staff and its ethos. As a school we very rarely have concerns about parents or visiting adults, however the local authority legal department advises that all schools have a policy framework to refer to should any concerns arise.

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

Aim of the policy:

That all members of the school community and our visitors treat each other with mutual respect and enjoy their time in school.

Expectations:

- As adults, we set a good example to young people at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community.
- No members of staff, parents or children experience abusive behaviour or threats from other adults on the school premises or because of their work in school.
- Physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language verbal or written, to staff, governors, parents and carers, visitors, 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 or other visitor who is asked to leave the school premises will have the right to appeal the decision by writing to the Chair of Governors. In the case of a permanent ban, they will have the right to have the decision considered by a panel of governors.

Please note that incidents of rudeness or other inappropriate behaviours will be logged with the Chair of Governors.

Guidelines

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

- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone
- Inappropriate postings on Social Networking sites, including those deemed as harassment or bullying, those that name, refer to or include images of staff, students or other members of the community
- Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone in person, over the telephone, via email or on social media
- Physical intimidation, e.g. standing very close or gathering in proximity to others
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements
- Physical or verbal threats
- Shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Swearing in person, via email or on social media
- Pushing
- Following members of staff or students
- Hitting e.g. slapping, punching or kicking
- Spitting
- Racist, homophobic or sexist comments

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour. Unacceptable behaviour is likely to 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. School premises are private property and parents and visitors 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 or visitors from entering school.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1997 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.

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.

Behaviours which cause concern may happen on or off the premises.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the Principal and Governors to monitor and review this policy.