



Nurturing **Ambition
Through a Living Faith**

School Ethos & Vision

Mission Statement: Nurturing ambition through a living faith.

Vision Statement: Our academy delivers a purposeful curriculum through its living Christian faith. We nurture ambition in all of our learners in order for them to become positive citizens of tomorrow.

Bible Verse: *"Let us not love with words or speech alone, but with actions and truth."* — 1 John 3:18

Policy Statement & Partnership Aims

At Darwen St James' C of E Primary Academy, we are proud to have a dedicated and supportive school community. We believe that the education of our pupils is a shared partnership between staff, governors, parents, and carers. Constructive, respectful, and open communication equips our children with the skills, confidence, and values they need to thrive.

This Code of Conduct outlines the standards of behavior expected from all parents, carers, and visitors connected to our academy—whether on school grounds, during off-site trips, or via electronic and social media communications. It applies to anyone collecting pupils on a parent's behalf.

1. Statutory Framework & Expected Standards

This code has due regard to statutory guidance and legislation, including:

- **Education Act 1996 (Section 547):** Nuisance and trespass on school premises.
- **Protection from Harassment Act 1997 & Malicious Communications Act 1988.**
- **Equality Act 2010 and Data Protection Act 2018 / UK GDPR.**
- DfE Statutory Guidance: **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).**

Expected Behaviours

We ask that all parents, carers, and visitors:

- Model positive, respectful, and polite behavior at all times.
- Respect the Christian ethos and learning environment of the academy.
- Work with staff constructively to resolve concerns through open, positive dialogue.
- Adhere to school safety rules, including parking safely away from yellow zig-zag lines, gates, and staff car parks during drop-off and collection.
- Maintain pupil confidentiality and privacy in digital communications.

2. Unacceptable Behaviour

Behavior that disrupts the school community, threatens safety, or compromises professional standards will not be tolerated. Prohibited behaviors include:

- **Disruptive Conduct:** Behavior that interferes with teaching, administration, or school activities on or off site.
- **Aggression & Intimidation:** Using loud, profane, or offensive language, shouting, displaying temper, or making verbal/physical threats toward staff, pupils, governors, or other adults.
- **Physical Violence:** Any physical aggression or corporal punishment of a child on school grounds.
- **Approaching Other Children:** Directly approaching, confronting, or chastising someone else's child regarding a school incident (this must be left strictly to school staff).
- **Property Damage:** Intentionally damaging or vandalizing school property.
- **Prohibited Substances:** Smoking, vaping, consuming alcohol, or taking illegal substances on school grounds.
- **Animals on Site:** Bringing dogs or pets onto school premises (except certified assistance dogs).
- **Abusive Communications:** Sending abusive, threatening, or defamatory emails, phone messages, or letters to staff or stakeholders.

3. Social Media & Digital Conduct

Online platforms (e.g., Facebook, WhatsApp groups, X, Instagram) must be used responsibly. The academy maintains official pages to celebrate pupil success and share news.

Prohibited Online Actions

Parents and visitors must not:

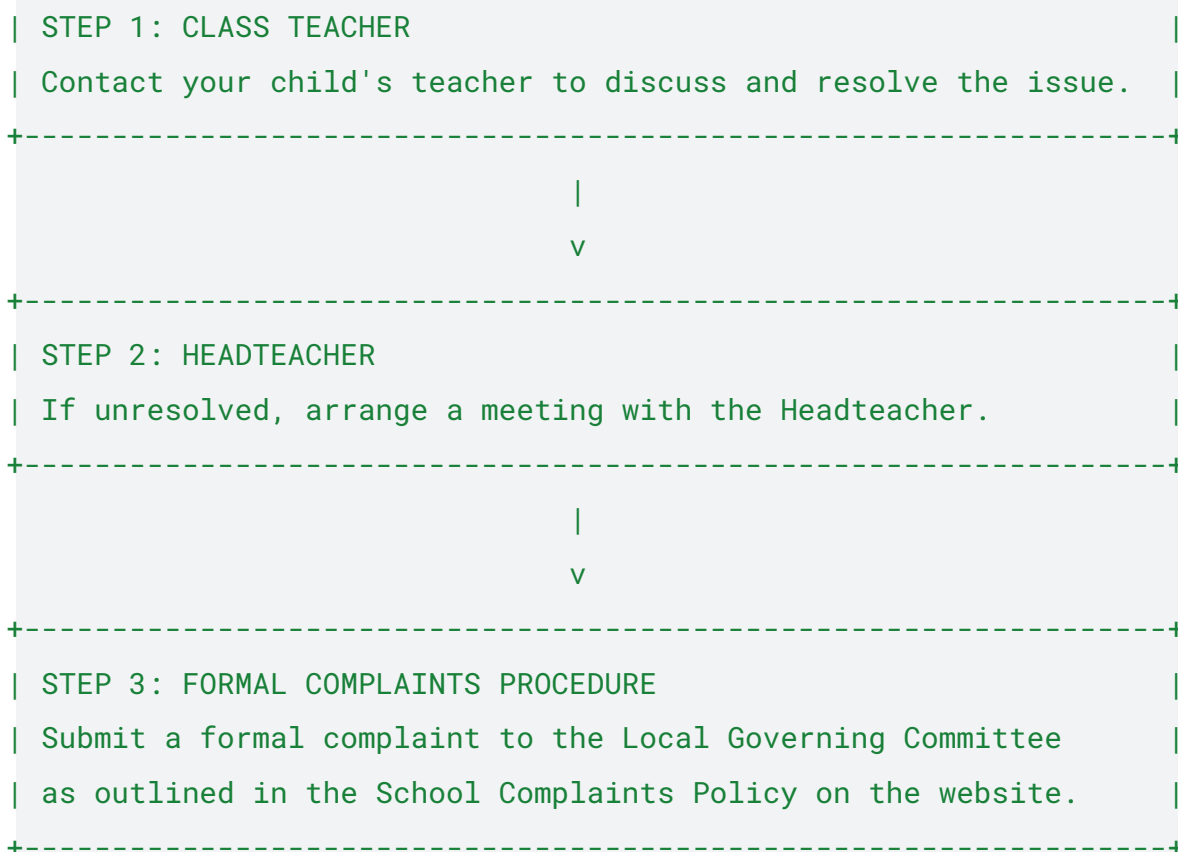
- Use social media to air complaints, run campaigns, or publicly criticize the academy, staff, governors, pupils, or other parents.
- Post defamatory, offensive, libellous, or derogatory comments regarding the school community.
- Share photos, videos, or identifiable information of other pupils without explicit consent.
- Use social media to publicly challenge school policies or individual pastoral/disciplinary decisions.

4. Raising Concerns & Resolution Framework

If you have a concern regarding your child's education, wellbeing, or a school decision, please follow these steps rather than raising matters informally in public or online:

None

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5. Breach of Code: Sanctions & Legal Actions

Where a parent, carer, or visitor ignores or breaches this Code of Conduct, proportionate action will be taken:

Severity / Nature of Breach	Immediate Action Taken
Serious Threats / Violence / Harassment	Police Involvement: Immediate referral to the police for threats, physical violence, harassment, or severe cyber-bullying.
Libel / Slander / Defamation	Legal Referral: Defamatory online posts or written claims referred to the Cidari Trust Legal Team for formal legal action.

Breaches of Conduct / Verbal Abuse	Formal Warning & Meeting: A formal written invitation to meet with the Headteacher to address and stop the behavior.
Persistent / Severe Misconduct	Site Ban: Under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996, the academy may ban the individual from entering school grounds.

Note: The Headteacher reserves the right to impose an immediate site ban without prior written warnings in high-risk or severe cases. Bans are initially time-limited and subject to review.