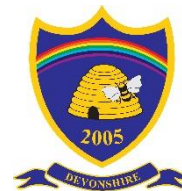




Devonshire Primary Academy

Parent/Carer Code of Conduct



This is an unsigned agreement between Devonshire Primary and its parents, carers and visitors.

We respectfully request that this Code of Conduct is adhered to at all times and thank you for helping us to create a positive, friendly and respectful environment for everyone in our school community.

At Devonshire Primary Academy, we are very proud and fortunate to have a very dedicated and supportive school community who recognise that the education and success of our learners is a partnership between everybody. In the interest of maintaining good working relationships, we welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

We expect our school community to respect our school ethos, follow our school values, set good examples of behaviour and keep our school site clean and tidy. We also expect our school community to keep our staff and learners safe by driving and parking safely and legally.

This Code of Conduct aims to clarify the types of behaviour that will not be tolerated and detail the actions the school may take when the Code of Conduct is not adhered to.

We are committed to resolving difficulties in a constructive manner, through an open and positive dialogue; however, we understand that misunderstandings can have a negative impact on our relationships.

- If issues arise, parents and carers are asked to contact their child's teacher to discuss the issue and work to resolve it.
- If an issue remains unresolved after discussing it with the teacher, please contact the office to request a phone call or appointment with the school's Senior Leadership Team.
- If an issue remains unresolved after discussing it with the Senior Leadership Team, please follow the Complaints Procedure, a copy of which is available on the school website or from the office.

Behaviour that will not be tolerated:

- Dogs and animals on the school premises (other than registered guide dogs or therapy pets – please note, the school will request that you provide evidence of registration and training).
- Smoking, consuming alcohol and taking illegal drugs on school premises.
- Loud, offensive or foul language.
- Threatening, in any way, a member of the school community.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Physical aggression towards any member of the school community. This includes physical punishment of your own children on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss an issue or chastise them. Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences.
- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments or accusations regarding the school or any of the school community online and on social media.
- Sending abusive or threatening communication to any member of the school community, verbally or in writing.

Should this behaviour occur on school premises, or in connection with school, the Senior Leadership Team may deem it necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities or consider banning the offending adult from the school premises.

Issues of Conduct on Social Media – 'Think Before You Post'

The school uses Facebook and Class Dojo, both of which platforms allow parents/carers to comment on posts and interact with parents and staff. Whilst the school encourages parental engagement on these platforms, we ask that communication is thoughtful and respectful.

Social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school or any member of the school community. The school takes its safeguarding responsibilities and inappropriate use of social media to publicly humiliate or criticise the school, another parent, any child and any member of staff very seriously.

Online activity that will not be tolerated:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of children, other than with parental consent.
- Offensive, foul or threatening language and defamatory or libellous comments.
- Abusive, accusatory or personal comments about any member of the school community.
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about any member of the school community.
- Posting anything that could be considered to bring the school into disrepute.

What happens if the Code of Conduct is not adhered to?

In the event of any parent, carer or visitor failing to adhere to the Code of Conduct, proportionate actions will be taken as follows.

- In cases where the unacceptable behaviour is a breach of the Code of Conduct but is not considered by the school to be libellous, slanderous or a criminal matter, the school will send a formal letter to the parent/carers inviting them to a meeting to discuss their behaviour.
 - If the parent/carers refuse to attend the meeting, the school will send a formal letter to the parent/carers to remind them of the behaviour expectations, ask them to ensure future incidents of unacceptable behaviour do not occur and warn them that if another breach occurs then they may be banned from the school premises.
 - If unacceptable behaviour continues after this, the school will send a formal letter to the parent/carers to advise them that they have been banned from the school premises until further notice.
- In cases where the unacceptable behaviour is considered to be a serious and potentially criminal matter, the school's concerns will be referred to the Police. This will include any or all cases of threats of violence and actual violence to any member of the school community. This will also include any act that could be seen as a sign of harassment of any member of the school community, such as any form of insulting online/social media post or any form of cyber bullying.
- In cases where evidence suggests that the unacceptable behaviour would be tantamount to libel or slander, the school will refer the matter to the Trust's Legal Team for further action.

Note

(1) In more serious cases, a ban from the school can be enforced without following the first steps mentioned in the first bullet point.

(2) A ban from the school premises will normally be limited in the first instance.