



Durham Johnston

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

1	SUMMARY	The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct.			
2	RESPONSIBLE PERSON:	Deputy Headteacher			
3	APPLIES TO:	Parents, Carers and Visitors			
4	GROUPS/ INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE OVERSEEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS POLICY:	Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team			
5	RATIFYING COMMITTEE(S) & DATE OF FINAL APPROVAL:	FGP & HR Committee, 17 October 2024			
6	VERSION:	V1			
7	AVAILABLE ON:	Staff Shared Drive	Yes	Website	Yes
8	RELATED DOCUMENTS:	Behaviour Policy Staff Code of Conduct			
12	DISSEMINATED TO:	All parents, carers and visitors			
13	DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	October 2024			
14	DATE OF NEXT FORMAL REVIEW:	October 2025			

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Date	Version	Action	Amendments
October 2024	1.0	Policy first implemented	N/A

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1. Purpose and scope

We have 5 core values that accurately reflect the school's ethos. They are:

1. **Academic Excellence;** a belief in progress for all.
2. **Acquiring Knowledge;** the importance of being an educated person and knowing things.
3. **Social Justice;** providing opportunities for all, regardless of background.
4. **Public Service;** the importance of making a contribution to the school community and wider society.
5. **Diverse Opportunities;** a rounded education that 'opens doors' regardless of location or specialism.

We recognise the important role parents and carers have in supporting our school ethos and upholding our values. As public servants, we will seek to be trustworthy, wise, kind, optimistic and fair when working with other members of the school community. We set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and pupils (through our behaviour policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents and carers by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

At Durham Johnston Comprehensive School we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents and carers to support their child's learning and achieve academic excellence
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff, visitors and other external partners.
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times

2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school and to support us in upholding it.
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- Contact school only through official channels, via school email address or main switchboard.

- Appreciate that staff are very busy and will strive to respond to external queries within 3 working days wherever possible.
- Treat all members of the school community with respect, setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct

3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated, in person, via telephone or online.

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Use of physical punishment against a child while on school premises
- Any aggressive behaviour towards another child or adult
- Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing animals onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)

4. Breaching the code of conduct

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to those involved about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Send a warning letter.
- End a communication with a clear warning.
- Arrange a meeting in school to meet with appropriate senior member of staff.
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour).
- Seek advice from the Local Authority regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous).
- Other appropriate action such as a ban from the school site.

BEFORE USING THIS POLICY ALWAYS ENSURE YOU ARE USING THE MOST UP TO DATE VERSION

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the headteacher.

The headteacher will consult the chair of governors before banning a parent from the school site.