



St. Clare's Catholic Primary School

Parent Code of Conduct

School Mission Statement

St. Clare's is a Christ-centred family where everyone is valued and respected. We learn and grow, whilst strengthening our relationship with God and one another.

Together in His love, we can achieve our full potential.

Play, learn and grow together with Christ.

Introduction

St. Clare's Catholic Primary School expects the highest standards of behaviour from its pupils and in turn expects that all parents will set a good example to all children and help maintain a safe, calm and respectful environment at all times.

At our school we are very proud and fortunate to have a highly dedicated and supportive community of parents, staff, governors and volunteers, working together in partnership to provide our children with the best possible education. We know that where parents and the school work within a positive partnership the children benefit and achieve more at school. We know too that for this partnership to be effective and harmonious it is vital that we maintain good relations between all involved.

Thankfully, serious relationship difficulties are rare in our school community, however schools are complex environments and everyday frustrations can sometimes cause misunderstandings. Establishing where this happens and remaining committed to resolving difficulties in a constructive manner through open and positive dialogue is essential. Our staff, governors and volunteers have all committed to a specific code of conduct for their roles, and of course our children are subject to the school's Behaviour Policy which includes a pupil code of conduct, a copy of which is available on our website.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct. This is so that we can all continue to progress, achieve and flourish in an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the Catholic identity, mission and values of our school.
- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that all members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a constructive solution to any issue.
- Correct their own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.

Expectations

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or student regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other communications.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of its pupils /parents /staff on social media sites/forums (including WhatsApp).
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be viewed as an assault on that child and may have legal consequences).
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events).
- Dogs being brought on to school premises unless they are a special assistance dog or there has been a risk assessment in place.

Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites/Forums

Social media websites/forums are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, school staff, and in some cases other parents or pupils. The Governors consider the use of social media 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, the Headteacher 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/ren being educated in the school is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on any social network sites/forums (including Whatsapp), 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 student removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites/forums. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate 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. We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

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.

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