



PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Agreed: January 2024

Review: January 2027

Introduction

At St Nicholas C of E Primary school, we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for their future. For these reasons, we welcome and encourage our families to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear expectations to all parents, carers and visitors to our school regarding their conduct. This is so that all children and adults can feel safe in our school environment.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos 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 peaceful resolution to any issue.
- Correct 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.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

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 at sport's team matches.
- Using loud and/or offensive language, swearing, cursing or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carers or pupil 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 written communication.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites (see Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Head or through the Complaints Policy, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- 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 seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences).
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises.
- Ignoring school rules put in place to safeguard all children including the use of mobile phones/smart watches to take photos or record children.
- We expect any disagreements that might have taken place between families outside of school not to be continued within the school site.
- Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and, if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.
- We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.
- We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy

Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social Network Site

Social media sites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governors of St Nicholas Church of England Primary School considers the use of social media sites 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 Heads of School 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 at the School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content that 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 pupil 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. 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.