

Parent Code of Conduct

“Flourishing Together”



At Heysham St Peter’s Primary School, we believe it is important to:

- ✓ Work in partnership with parents and carers to support every child’s learning and wellbeing
- ✓ Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and families
- ✓ Model positive and appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times
- ✓ Address concerns early and work together to achieve the best outcomes for children

To support this, we set clear expectations and guidelines for behaviour across our school community. These apply to staff (through the Staff Code of Conduct and related policies), pupils (through the Behaviour Policy), and parents and carers. This Code of Conduct aims to support positive and respectful relationships between school and home by setting out expectations for appropriate behaviour, both **in person and online**.

The term parents includes anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil, as well as carers such as grandparents or childminders.

Our Expectations of Parents and Carers

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of Heysham St Peter’s Primary School
- Work collaboratively with school staff in the best interests of all pupils
- Treat all members of the school community with courtesy and respect, setting a positive example in both speech and behaviour, including online
- Raise concerns with the appropriate member of staff so that issues can be resolved quickly and effectively
- Seek peaceful and respectful solutions to any disagreements
- Support the school by addressing and correcting their own child’s behaviour, particularly in public situations where it may lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct

Behaviour That Will Not Be Tolerated

The following list provides examples of behaviours that are unacceptable and will not be tolerated, either in person or online, towards the school, its staff, pupils or members of the wider school community. This list is not exhaustive.

- Behaviour that causes distress, discomfort or takes up a disproportionate amount of staff time
- Raising or sharing concerns within the community or on social media that have not been appropriately raised with the school
- Aggressive behaviour, loss of temper, swearing or use of offensive language
- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, the daily operation of the school, including school events and activities
- Threatening, intimidating or abusive behaviour towards staff, pupils or other parents
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or pupils
- Using physical punishment towards a child while on school premises
- Challenging or disciplining another parent’s child or confronting another parent about a school matter – any concerns should be reported to a member of staff
- Smoking or vaping, or consuming alcohol (or being under the influence of alcohol) on school premises, unless alcohol has been specifically permitted for an event
- Possession or use of drugs, including so-called ‘legal highs’
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises, except for registered assistance dogs

Breaches of the Code of Conduct

If the school becomes aware that a parent or carer has breached this Code of Conduct, information will be gathered and the matter discussed with those involved.

Depending on the seriousness and nature of the incident, the school may take one or more of the following actions:

- Invite the parent or carer to a meeting with a senior member of staff or the Headteacher
- Issue a formal written warning
- Restrict a parent’s contact with the school or ban them from the school premises
- Contact appropriate external agencies or authorities in cases of criminal behaviour
- Seek advice from the Local Authority’s legal team in cases that may involve libel or slander

The school will always respond proportionally and fairly. The final decision on how to respond to a breach of this Code of Conduct rests with the Headteacher. In situations where a ban from the school site is being considered, the Headteacher will consult with the Chair of Governors.