



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Parent Code of Conduct



At St Joseph's we value our strong relationships with parents and carers. Together this helps us achieve the very best for our children in a mutually supportive partnership between parents, staff and the school community.

As partners, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

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

Guidance

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home/School Partnership Agreement, we expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect and model the caring ethos of our school whenever on school premises or when communicating directly with the school.
- Understand that school staff and parents need to work together for the benefit of **all**.
- Demonstrate that **all** members of the school community should be treated with tolerance and respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech, conduct and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct own child's behaviour, especially in public, where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues or concerns. There are clear guidelines about which staff member to contact about specific issues which are available on our website and on the Flow of communication sent out to parents at the beginning of the school year.

We wish to support a safe school environment therefore the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disturbing school staff and trying to speak to them whilst they are supervising children.
- Attempts to gain entry to any part of the school in disregard of procedure or without permission and appropriate supervision.
- 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 actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive, persistent 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/parent/staff at the school, in public or on Facebook or other social media sites. (See additional advice regarding Social Media). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels via the complaints procedure, 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 discipline 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 other drugs whilst on school property.

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, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

We trust that parents, carers and visitors will assist our school with the implementation of this code of conduct and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.



Inappropriate use of Social Media

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and a complaint against schools, Head Teachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School considers the use of social media websites 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 leadership team, Head Teacher 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 pupil being educated in St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is found to be posting unfounded 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.

It is the parents responsibility to make any other persons dropping/collecting children aware of this policy.

