



## SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

At our School we are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between home and school and understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons, we welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school. The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parent and visitors to our school about expected conduct so that we can work together to ensure a safe and positive school environment for all students.

### RESPECT AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS AND THEIR RIGHTS

This guidance supports implementation of the Home-School Agreement. We expect parents and carers to show respect and concern for others by:

- supporting the respectful ethos of our school by setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the school community;
- working together with teachers for the benefit of children. This includes approaching the school, from the onset, to resolve any issues of concern and to discuss and clarify specific events to bring about a positive solution;
- reinforcing the school's policy on Behaviour;
- parking with safety and with consideration and respect for others when delivering and collecting children from school.

To support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school does not tolerate: -

- using loud and/or offensive language or displaying temper;
- abusive, threatening, malicious or inflammatory emails, phone, or social network messages
- smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs or accessing the school site whilst intoxicated;
- damaging or destroying school property;



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);
- breaching the school's security procedures.

The above behaviours on school premises will be reported to the appropriate authorities and the Headteacher may prohibit an offending adult from entering the school grounds to safeguard our school community. We trust that parents, carers and visitors will fully support this Code of Conduct.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media websites are occasionally being used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governing Body 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 following our complaints procedure so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

If any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at our 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 which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report content 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 any member of the school community to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident