



South Hykeham Community Primary School
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PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Introduction

We are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. We want our parents to recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community.

We continue to welcome and encourage parents to participate fully in the life of our school because we recognise that all parties to our partnership, including our parents, should understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out our expectations of the conduct of all parents and visitors to our school. . This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

Guidance

We expect parents and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos 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 peaceful solution to any issue;
- Address their own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour;
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern by making an appointment to meet with the class teacher in the first instance or with the teacher's line manager which in our school is the headteacher;
- Avoid using staff as threats to reprimand children's behaviour;



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- Remember how busy members of staff are during the school day, particularly first thing in the morning and where you need to speak with a member of staff make an appointment to do so at a time when they can give you their full attention.

In order to ensure a peaceful and safe school environment the school will not tolerate parents and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes with 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 all sporting and social occasions;
- Using loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using disrespectful language of any kind or displaying temper anywhere on school grounds;
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication;
- Dictating behaviour to staff about how their professional duties will be discharged;
- Speaking to members of staff at the school in a manner that is aggressive, demanding or intimidating including invading their personal space;
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent or student regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence;
- Damaging or destroying school property;
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the students/parent/staff, at the school on Social Media. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned using the appropriate complaints procedure;
- 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 seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences);
- Smoking, including e-cigarettes, and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property;
- Dogs being brought on to school premises without prior consent – at our school parents are expected to keep dogs off the school site.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school will consider carefully appropriate action which may include restricting access to the school or involving the police where the law may have been broken.

We trust that parents will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Note: We ask all parents, please, to ensure that they make all persons responsible for both bringing their children to and collecting their children from school aware of this policy.



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Appendix 1: Inappropriate use of Social Media

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/students.

The school seeks to teach pupils the importance of appropriate and responsible use of social media and it is therefore vital that everyone in the school community, including parents, lead by example.

The Governors consider that social media websites being used in this way is unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community. Any concerns that you may have about inappropriate use of social media 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 line with the school complaints policy.

In the event that any student or parent of a child/children being educated in the school is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Social Media, 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 provide robust mechanisms to report content or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent 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. Cyber bullying is the use by a child, children 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.

Appendix 2: Volunteers who work in school and Friends of the School.

Volunteers and Friends of the School are in a unique position in that they are in direct contact with our pupils and staff. It is vital therefore that they adhere not only to this code of conduct, but the code of conduct that staff of the school follow, its confidentiality policy and all of the school policies relevant to the role they have.



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