

South Petherton Junior School
Policy Statement for Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

Rationale

- 1 We are a caring school.
- 2 We try our best and are respectful.
- 2 We value our strong relationship with parents and carers.
- 3 We aim to achieve the very best for our children in a mutually supportive partnership between parents, staff and the school community.

As a partnership, our parents understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip their children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons, we continually welcome and encourage parents or carers to participate fully in the life of our school. To create the best outcomes for children, the relationship between home and school must be based on the principles of care, integrity, trust and mutual respect.

The vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting the school, are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. However, on the rare occasions when a negative attitude towards the school is expressed, this can result in aggression, verbal and or physical abuse towards members of school staff or the wider school community.

Guiding principles

1) As well as following the guidance set in our Home /School Agreement and holding the above principles in mind, parents, carers and visitors are reminded:

- To respect the caring ethos and values of the school
- That both school staff and parents need to work together for the benefit of all children in the school
- To resolve issues by approaching staff in an appropriate manner
- To use appropriate language and behaviour with all members of staff and the school community
- To respect school procedures and policy in investigating any identified issues in order to bring about an appropriate solution

2) In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school will not tolerate parents, carers or visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's operation or activities anywhere on the school premises
- Using loud or offensive language (racist, sexist, homophobic or transgender) or displaying temper and/or swearing
- Threatening, in any way, a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carers or pupil
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Sending abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of pupils/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites.
- 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, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events).
- Breaching the school's security and safeguarding procedures

(Nb: This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such unacceptable behaviour)

3) Should unacceptable behaviour occur, the school may feel it is necessary to take action. The school will follow its escalation policy:

1. Meeting with member of staff / Head teacher to resolve the situation through discussion and mediation (Nb: If unacceptable behaviour continues, the meeting will be terminated and the school will ask the parent / carer / visitor to leave the premises).
2. School investigation of identified issues in order to bring about an appropriate solution
3. School response - this will include a written summary of the first parental concern, school investigation, confirmation of action and a reminder of the Parent / Carer conduct.
4. If necessary, the school complaints policy will then be followed
5. If all procedures have been exhausted, and aggression and intimidation continues, a parent, carer or visitor may be banned from the school premises by the Head teacher in consultation with the Chair of Governors for a period of time, subject to review as defined in section 547 of the Education Act (1996). This will be stated in writing.

Review of policy

The policy will be reviewed every 2 years by the Full Governing Body.