

Templefield Lower School

Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers and Visitors



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Introduction

We believe that children learn best in a safe and supportive environment based on respect and trust and underpinned by an effective partnership between parents, staff and the school community. High standards of behaviour are required of pupils and staff are expected to act professionally at all times (please refer to our [Staff Code of Conduct](#)). The positive support of parents is essential for children to achieve their best and we value our strong relationship with parents.

This Code of Conduct has been approved and agreed by the school's governing body. It provides a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the conduct expected of them. It sets out both what they should aim to do and conduct which will not be tolerated. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Expectations

We expect parents, carers and, where appropriate, visitors to adhere to the following standards of behaviour:

- Respect the caring ethos and values of the school.
- Work together with school staff for the benefit of the children.
- Treat all members of the school community with respect, using appropriate language and behaviour.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Where appropriate, clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Promote the good behaviour of their own children at all times, especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour - please avoid using teachers as a threat if your child misbehaves.

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

- Disruptive or other inappropriate behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Approaching another parent or child in order to discuss or chastise them because of an issue between the children (such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences) - please talk to a member of staff to resolve problems.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Threatening, in any way, a member of school staff, visitor, parent, governor or pupil.
- Using physical or verbal aggression towards another adult or child, including physical punishment of their own child on the school premises.
- Any other behaviour, verbal or otherwise, which could be considered to be inappropriate, offensive or abusive.
- Sending abusive or threatening emails, text, voicemail, phone messages or other written communications to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory content on social media regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents or staff at the school (see Appendix).
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs or consuming alcohol on the school premises (alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events).
- Bringing dogs (other than guide dogs) onto the school premises.
- Taking photographs with phones or other devices on the school premises without permission from the school.

If we are unable to resolve issues in a reasonable manner, the school may have to ban the individual from entering the school grounds and, in extreme cases, we may need to involve the police. We ask that parents make all persons responsible for collecting their child aware of this policy. Thank you for your cooperation.

Appendix

Inappropriate use of Social Media

Social media is being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents or pupils. The governors consider the use of social media in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, headteacher or chair of governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

Defamatory comments

In the event that any pupil or parent of a child at the school is found to be posting defamatory comments on social media, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the site or app. There are clear rules about the content which can be posted on social media and robust mechanisms to report content or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent or pupil removes such content immediately.

Cyberbullying

We take very seriously the use of information and communication technology to deliberately cause harm or distress to someone else. Cases of cyberbullying will be dealt with swiftly and appropriately in line with our anti-bullying policy.

In serious cases the school will also consider its **legal options** to deal with any such misuse of social media.