



Parent Code of Conduct

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1. Purpose and Scope

At Grimsdyke School we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- Model and promote positive behaviour, within a safe and caring environment which supports the emotional health and well-being of all members of our community

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the 'Staff Code of Conduct Policy') and pupils (through our school 'Behaviour Policy').

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour. Together we create a positive and uplifting environment not only for the children but also all who work and visit our school.

It is important for parents and carers to make sure any persons collecting their children are aware of this policy.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Responsibly correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct

- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern. Please refer to section 4.5 within the school's 'Communication Policy' regarding who to contact.

3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the schools normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Using offensive language, swearing, cursing, profane language
- The use of aggressive or exaggerated hand gestures/movements
- Offensive language or comments about any of the protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010)
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Threatening or intimidating behaviour towards another member of the school community
- Sending abusive or threatening emails, text, voicemail, phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to anyone within the school community (refer to the schools 'Social Media Policy').
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms (including WhatsApp).
- Unreasonable demands upon school staff to respond to a parental query, or expectations for staff to communicate outside of normal working hours.
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discipline or chastise them (such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences). Please raise any school related behaviour concerns to a member of staff to bring this to the school's attention.
- The school does not permit electronic recordings of meetings or telephone calls by parents or staff without the explicit prior permission of all involved, and in agreement with senior leadership.
- Smoking, vaping or consumption of alcohol on the school premises. Note: an exception applies to permit the purchase and consumption of alcohol on school premises during formal, organised school events (e.g. Christmas Fair, Summer Carnival or other FOGS or school events). On these occasions, an alcohol license is applied for and granted by the council.
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)

- Bringing pets onto the school premises (excluding guide dogs)

4. Breaching the code of conduct

If the school becomes aware, or suspects, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the head teacher
- End a meeting if this behaviour is displayed
- Not reply to communications that are offensive, abusive or derogatory
- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Seek advice from local authority (LA) regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Ban the parent from the school site.

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way, ensuring that all stakeholders, such as governors, LA and head teacher, are appropriately involved before responding to breaches of the code of conduct.

The head teacher will consult the chair of governors before banning a parent from the school site.

5. Linked Policies and documents

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Community Behaviour Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Communications and electron information Policy
- Managing serial and unreasonable complaints
- Operational and strategic decisions protocol
- Complaints Policy