

# **Park Hill Primary School**

## **Code of conduct for parents and carers**

At Park Hill Primary school we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to 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 parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

### **Our ethos and values**

Park Hill is an inclusive school, serving a multi-cultural, socially diverse community and 'We aim to bring out the best in everyone'. We are a Compassionate school and are working towards the UNICEF Rights of the Child award.

### **What you can expect of us and what we expect of you**

#### **The school and its staff will:**

- Treat visitors to our school site with respect to which they are entitled;
- Ensure that visitors to our school site are supervised, where necessary;
- Check the identity of contractors, workers and other visitors to our school site, as necessary;
- Act in accordance with our safeguarding policy (see the school's website); and
- Do all that they reasonably can to ensure that our school site is a safe and welcoming learning and working environment.

#### **All visitors to our school, and interacting with our pupils and staff, are expected to behave calmly, politely and respectfully. This means that visitors must:**

- Treat our school population, environment and property with respect;
- Follow our school rules, protocols and any instructions given by school staff;
- Report anything that puts anyone on our site at risk to a member of our staff;
- Accept that they are responsible for their child's behaviour and safety, whilst the child is in their care, even when they are on our school premises.
- Respect the caring ethos 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.
- Correct 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.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

#### **Behaviour and conduct**

Our School will decide on a case by case basis whether a visitor's behaviour is unacceptable, but any behaviour that we believe adversely affects our safe and caring learning environment and/or puts the physical or emotional wellbeing of a pupil, member of staff, parent or other visitor at risk, is not acceptable behaviour on our school site.

This may include, but is not limited to:

- Disruptive behaviour; for example, which interferes 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 team matches.
- Aggressive or threatening speech or behaviour e.g. by swearing, threatening or shouting at others, taking an aggressive stance, threatening to strike someone or assaulting another person;
- Damaging or destroying school property;
- Behaviour that could be considered racist, sexist, homophobic or similarly offensive in some other way;
- Smoking, vaping or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst on our school site;
- Bringing animals on to our school site, other than guide dogs;
- Being in possession of weapons of any kind;
- Refusing to follow the reasonable instructions of our staff.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Head teacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- 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).
- In addition, unacceptable behaviour also includes any communication with a member of our school's community that is malicious, threatening or abusive, including in person, over the telephone or in writing, e.g. by letter, email or any other electronic format, such as social media, regardless of whether it takes place on the school premises.

### **How the School will respond to behaviour that is unacceptable**

In most cases the school will attempt to informally remedy the situation by speaking with the individual concerned, privately. There may be no further action.

Where there is any dispute over what has occurred, or if the alleged incident is complex or serious, the school will conduct a formal investigation in order to establish the facts and determine what action should be taken, if any.

If the school decides that a visitor's behaviour has been unacceptable the school or, in some cases the Local Authority on the school's behalf, may decide to:

- Informally, i.e. verbally, warn the visitor about their behaviour;
- Formally, i.e. in writing, warn the visitor about their behaviour;
- Ban the visitor from the premises for a specified period; or
- Report the behaviour to the Police.

Visitors will be entitled to make representations to the governing board, in line with the school's complaints procedure, if they disagree with the decision reached by the school.

### **Questions and concerns about this Code**

The School is grateful for the support that it receives from visitors in maintaining its caring and safe learning and working environment, so any feedback that you may have about the content of this Code, is welcomed.

Please direct any feedback or questions about the Code to the school office who will refer your comments on to an appropriate member of staff.

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

**Adopted by the Governing Board of Park Hill Primary School on .....19/10/17.....**

**Signed by ..... (Chair of Governors) Date .....19/10/18.....**

## **Inappropriate use of Social Network Site**

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governors of Park Hill Primary School 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 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 the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the 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. This also applies to third parties, for instance individuals from the wider community. 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 one child 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.

We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.