



Parent Code of Conduct Policy

Rationale:

At West Melton Primary School we believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to learn and work. Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is contrary to the aims of the school.

Aims:

That all members of the school community treat each other with respect

Expectation:

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community
- That no members of staff, parents or children are the victims of abusive behaviour or open to threats from other adults on the school premises.
- Physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language verbal or written, to staff, governors, parents and carers, children and other users of the school premises will not be tolerated and will result in withdrawal of permission to be on school premises.
- Any parent who is asked to leave the school premises will have the right to appeal the decision by writing to the Chair of Governors.

Persons Causing Nuisance / Disturbance on School Premises Section 547 of the Education Act 1996

School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on school premises. However, in case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, school may ban parents from entering school.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist in removing the person concerned.

School is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

Guidelines:

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated towards any member of the school community:

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, the office area or any other area of the school grounds including the playground.
- Using rude/offensive language, swearing, cursing, using disrespectful language or displaying temper.
- Disturbing school staff and trying to speak to them whilst they are supervising children.
- Breaching school security procedures, e.g. entering school gates without using the intercom system when other parents are leaving or entering the building.
- Attempting to gain entry to any part of the school in disregard of procedure or without permission and appropriate supervision.
- 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.
- Damaging or destroying school property. Shouting, either in person or over the telephone.
- 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 any other social media sites.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against a parent's 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).
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises.

- Racist or sexist comments

Inappropriate use of Social Networking Sites:

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 West Melton 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. (Please see Social Media Policy and Use of Mobile Phones and Digital Photography Policy.)

Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher (this doesn't include the use of the Dojo reward system), Senior Leaders and the Headteacher 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 West Melton 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. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact 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. Unacceptable behaviour may result in the Police being informed.

The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to abuse. Parents have the right of appeal by writing to the Chair of Governors within ten days of permission to enter the school premises being withdrawn.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the Head teacher and Governors to monitor and review this policy.

Policy written April 2017, Updated: January 2018

Signed: Z Norris

Appendix 1: Procedure to address inappropriate behaviour by adults on the school site

At West Melton Primary School we operate a 'zero tolerance' of the use of inappropriate behaviour anywhere on the school site.

**Inappropriate behaviour means disrespectful conduct towards people or property within the school site.

Our Parental Behaviour Policy states:

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community
- That no members of staff, parents or children are the victims of abusive behaviour or open to threats from other adults on the school premises.

All staff and governors agree that any adult found to be using inappropriate behaviour towards other adults or children should be dealt with using the following steps:

-An adult approaches another child

The adult will be spoken to immediately and the issue investigated by a school leader. This will be reported to the Headteacher and recorded. The adult will receive a warning letter.

-A parent approaches another parent.

The parent should report this to a member of staff or a school leader. The offending parent will be spoken to as soon as possible after the incident and reminded that we have a zero tolerance of inappropriate behaviour. A letter will be given to the parent. This warns a parent that if it recurs they could be banned from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.

-A parent approaches a member of staff

This should be reported immediately to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. This will be investigated as soon as possible and the member of staff will be informed of the

action taken. The parent/adult will be spoken to and given a warning letter. This warns a parent that if it recurs they could be banned from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.

-Recurring inappropriate behaviour

If a parent continues to use inappropriate behaviour, they will be referred to the Policy for Parental Behaviour. This indicates how anti-social behaviour, when not corrected, can lead to interviews with the HT and Governors. This can then lead to a ban from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.