



St Mary's CE Primary School

Felsham Road

Putney

Code of Conduct – Parent/Carers

Vision: Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish

Mission: Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian faith

Values: Endurance, Compassion, Thankfulness

November 2023

1. Purpose and scope

At St. Mary's, we believe it's important to:

- Ensure all of our interactions are guided by the Christian foundation of our school
- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for adults and children
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times, showing them what excellence is
- Create a culture of wonder where everyone is appreciated and valued

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), pupils (through our behaviour policy/home school agreement) and governors (through the governors' code of conduct).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour at any and all school events, including those which are held offsite e.g. sporting events.

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)

We ask parent/carers to be conscious that although WhatsApp and any and all other social media groups set up by parent/carers are private, any evidence which is brought to the schools attention and which breaches this code of conduct, ceases to be private and will be managed under this code.

2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the Christian 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
- 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
- Support the school when disciplinary measures are applied in accordance with school policy

3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Approaching and speaking to staff during non-working hours about work related issues
- Contacting staff outside of school communication systems about work related issues e.g. on social media channels or through online messaging services
- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations
- Rudeness, swearing, or using offensive language
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at adults or children
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Sending abusive messages in any format to another member of the school community
- Recording factually incorrect information about staff in any format and without their permission

- Sharing defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, in any format
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- Disciplining another person's child without the parent/carer's consent – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Smoking, vaping or drinking alcohol on the school premises or at any and all school events (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)

4. Breaching the code of conduct

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, 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:

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent in to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the head teacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the local authority's/diocesan board's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Temporarily ban the parent from the school site and/or school events
- Enforce a longer or permanent ban, following a previous temporary ban and/or bans

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the head teacher.

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