

# Parent Code of Conduct Policy



## *'Let Your Light Shine'*

We aspire for everyone at Malvern Wells to be the BRIGHTEST version of themselves, equipped with the knowledge that they are unconditionally loved by God who sees their intrinsic value, free to take risks, make mistakes and grow in the safety of his forgiveness ready for the plans and purposes He has in store for their bright future.

*Let YOUR Light Shine by Letting His Light Shine through You!*

## **Introduction**

We are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent community. 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/carers 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.

## **Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to nurture the potential for the brightest potential in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, rooted in our core values that are lived out through every part of the community.

## **Guidance**

### **We expect parents, carers and visitors to:**

- Respect the unique culture and values of our school, where everyone is valued.
- 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.
- Be mindful of how they communicate about school and staff to other parents, particularly digitally.

**In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:**

- Abusive, or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Serial or vexatious communication to avoid inordinate strain on time, resources and staff well-being.
- Unrealistic demands: insisting on immediate responses to numerous, frequent, and/or complex emails or demanding an outcome that has already been explained as unrealistic for policy or legal reasons.
- Disruptive behaviour 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.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or student regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the students/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, Headteacher 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.
- 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 unless during licensed activities.

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

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 our school.

## **Appendix 1: 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/children. The Governors 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. The complaints Policy is available on our website and should be followed.

In the event that any student 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. 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 student 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.

## **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.