



A Positive Approach  
To  
RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOUR

Parental Code of Conduct

**EXPECT  
RESPECT**

## Parental Code of Conduct

The Headteacher, Staff and Governing Body of Whinstone Primary School take very seriously their responsibilities for positive parental relationships. Together they have agreed the following Parental Code of Conduct policy.

At Whinstone we are extremely fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. 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 and their child's education.

The purpose of the Parental Code of Conduct 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.

### Expected Parental Behaviour

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

- Respect and be respectful to our caring school ethos
- 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 communications 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.

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

- 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 towards pupils, members of staff, governors, other parents and visitors; and at any time on the school site.
- 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.
- 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, trustees and governors 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.
- Openly displaying disrespect to any member of school staff or governor.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- Use of defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments in communication, either verbal or written to a member of staff or governor.
- Threatening a member of staff or governor either verbally or with written comments
- Using equipment to record conversations with members of staff and Governors
- 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).
- Bringing dogs on to school premises.

**Should any of the above behaviours occur on school premises the school will take a zero tolerance approach and will feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and 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 the 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/pupils. The Governors of Whinstone 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 Whinstone 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 threaten, offend or 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 expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.