PARENT, CARER AND VISITOR CODE OF CONDUCT

At The Westborough School we are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between home and school and understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we 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 and visitors to our school about expected conduct so that we can work together to ensure a safe and positive school environment for our children.

RESPECT AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS AND THEIR RIGHTS

This guidance supports the Home-School Agreement. We expect parents and carers to show respect and concern for others by: -

- supporting the respectful ethos of our school by setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the school community;
- working together with teachers for the benefit of children. This includes approaching the school to resolve any issues of concern and to discuss and clarify specific events in order to bring about a positive solution;
- reinforcing the school's policy on behaviour;
- respecting the learning environment appropriately (both in school and off site),
- parking with consideration and respect for others when delivering and collecting children from school;
- in the case of a safeguarding or child protection issue the designated staff to talk to in confidence are Katy Doucy or Tonya Brook.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school does not tolerate: -

- disruptive behaviour which interferes with the operation of a classroom, an office area or any other part of the school grounds;
- using loud and/or offensive language or displaying temper;
- threatening harm or the use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes approaching someone else's child in order to speak to them about their behaviour or chastise them and physical punishment against your own child on school premises. It is for the school to resolve internal issues. (Some actions may constitute an assault with legal consequences.);
- damaging or destroying school property;
- abusive, threatening, malicious or inflammatory emails, phone or social network messages
- smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs or coming on to school grounds whilst intoxicated;

The above behaviours on school premises will be reported to the appropriate authorities and Governors may prohibit an offending adult from entering the school grounds to safeguard our school community.

We trust that parents, carers and visitors will fully support this Code of Conduct.

USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Head teachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Westborough 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 Senior Leadership team, the Head teacher 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 at The Westborough 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 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 any member of the school community to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

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