



Parent Code of Conduct

Introduction

We are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. We recognise that educating children involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community.

1. Purpose and scope

At Westwood Academy, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for students, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our students at all times

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) and students (through our Behaviour Policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a student
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)
- Anyone representing the parent of a child.

2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the 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 and reasonable solution to all issues
- 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 their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct
- Respectfully approach members of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Threatening harm to a member of school staff, Governor/AC member/Trustee, visitor, fellow parent or student
- Intimidating behaviour, including shouting/a raised voice aimed at members of staff, students or other parents
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- The school does not permit electronic recordings of meetings or telephone calls by parents or staff without the explicit prior permission of all involved, and in agreement with senior managers
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms (Please see Appendix A)
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- Smoking or vaping on the school premises
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)

4. Breaching the code of conduct

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises and depending on the nature of the incident, the school may take any of the following actions.

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Limit contact by allocating one key staff member to communicate with
- Request that communication is in writing only
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities
- Ban the parent from the school site

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 Headteacher.

We trust that parents will assist our school with the implementation of this policy, and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Appendix A

Inappropriate use of social media - 'Think before you post'

We ask that social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, school staff, parents or children.

Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the appropriate member of staff, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.