

Code of Conduct for Parents/Carers and Visitors

Leighfield Primary School has a strong ethos of respect, and through high expectations of behaviour, we strive to ensure that all children are given every opportunity to reach their potential.

At our school the staff, advisory board, parents and carers all recognise that the education of our children is a partnership. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for their education. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

Purpose

The purpose of this code of conduct is to provide the expectations around the conduct of all parents, carers and visitors connected to our school. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and partnership.

Expectations

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- a) Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- e) Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern and recognise that resolving a specific problem can sometimes take some time
- f) To read and abide by the school's Code of Conduct for Parent/Carer and Visitor.

Unacceptable behaviours

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

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, the wider school and grounds including team matches.

- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Threatening a member of school staff, advisory board, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication (including social media) to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff or advisory board members at the school on Facebook or other social media sites.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- 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 or being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.

The school recognises that the above list is not exhaustive and the Headteacher reserves the right to include additional behaviours as and when deemed necessary.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on or around 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.

Responding to unacceptable behaviours

The Headteacher will carry out a risk assessment in order to help make a decision about the level of response and seek assurances about ensuring future good conduct. In all cases the response will be reasonable and proportionate. The school's response will include one or more of the following:

- A verbal reminder on what is considered acceptable behaviour by the school.
- A written on what is considered acceptable behaviour by the school.
- Impose conditions on the parent's access or contact with the school and its staff A time limited ban from school grounds for continued unacceptable behaviour.
- A permanent ban from school grounds for continued unacceptable behaviour.

In cases where the unacceptable behaviour is considered to be a serious and potentially criminal matter, the concerns will in the first instance be referred to the Police.

Complaints policy

If parents have any concerns relation to the school they should be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of the Advisory Board, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned. Full details of the procedure are set out in the school Complaints Policy and Procedure available on the school website.

Any parental complaint that arises from incidents of abusive behaviour will be dealt with under the complaints policy.