



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School Parent/Visitor Code of Conduct

'We welcome everyone into our community, to live, love and learn together in the light and example of Jesus Christ.'

Rationale

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School is very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves a strong partnership between parents, teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents understand the importance of good working relationships to provide children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents to participate fully in the life of our school.

We believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to work. Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress to any member of our school community is contrary to the aims of the school.

The purpose of this policy is to remind parents 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 respect and understanding.

Guidance

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School-Parish Agreement, we expect parents and visitors to:

- Follow our school's safeguarding procedures, to ensure that everyone is protected from harm and **immediately** report anything that they believe is putting anyone at risk
- Respect and demonstrate the caring family ethos of our school in line with the school's Mission Statement
- Set a good example to children at all times, demonstrating to them how to get along with all members of the school and wider community
- 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 mutual 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 their own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour
- Not raise concerns relating to members of staff in front of children
- Park safely, legally and responsibly in our local community and to not use the school drive when dropping off or collecting children at any time

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school will not tolerate parents and visitors exhibiting any of 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 after school activities
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper or aggressive behaviour
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, academy representative, visitor, fellow parent 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/parents/staff at the school on Facebook, Whatsapp or any other social media sites. Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher or the Head teacher in the first instance, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child including your own child/ren
- Taking matters of concern into their own hands by 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)
- Contacting other parents or staff employed or volunteering within school to gain information about their own and/or other children in school
- Smoking, vaping and consumption of other drugs or alcohol whilst on school property (with the exception of school based PTA events if there is a legal licence for the consumption of alcohol)
- Dogs being brought on to any areas of the school premises (the only exception being guide/assistance dogs)

How the school will respond to behaviour that is unacceptable under this code of conduct

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school will establish the facts and attempt to remedy the situation through a meeting with the Principal/Vice Principal. We will raise our concerns and gain reassurance that the conduct will not be repeated.

In some cases, the school will seek the advice of the Local Authority before responding to the unacceptable conduct. This may lead to the school, or the Local Authority acting on behalf of the school, writing to the individual concerned to make it clear that their conduct is unacceptable and warning them that further action will be taken if it is repeated, which may result in the individual being barred from the school premises. The individual concerned is entitled to make representations to the school's Academy Committee about the letter and the warning given.

Any behaviours that are deemed unacceptable may result in the Police being informed. The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to abuse. 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. Please note that incidents of rudeness and disrespectful behaviour will be logged.

We trust that parents and visitors will assist the school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the wider Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School Family.