

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Code of Conduct: Parents / Carers and other visitors to school



St Mary's Catholic Primary School is extremely proud and fortunate to have very supportive and friendly parents without which we would not be able to function so successfully as a Catholic School. Educating children is a process that relies on partnership between parents, class teachers, staff and the wider school community. As a partnership everyone will understand the importance of good working relationships to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. It is important that children see everyone working together to help them understand how to work in the future.

This policy is to remind everyone about the behaviour we expect in and around the school.

Guidance

Parents, carers and visitors are expected to:

- respect the Catholic Ethos of our school - *Treat others as you would wish to be treated*;
- always respect the staff and support the things that have been done to help your child learn and grow;
- stay within the areas that are necessary for your visit;
- set a good example by behaving well and not using bad language;
- make sure you ask the school for their clarification of any incidents so that you can see if it is the same as your child's view before you take things further;
- ensure your child behaves at all times;
- ask the school for clarification if you don't understand something or want to know more detail;

In order to have a peaceful, safe and happy school environment, parents, carers and visitors must not:

- disrupt classes or any area of the school;
- question decisions made by the school in front of children or other parents;
- use loud or rude language, swear or show temper;
- threaten to, or hit/push a member of the school staff, other parents or carers;
- damage or destroy school property;
- criticise the school, staff, pupils or other parents on the school premises, or on social network sites;
- send abusive or threatening emails or make abusive or threatening phone calls;
- go up to another child to ask them, or tell them off, about something that may have happened with your child;
- bring dogs onto the school premises (except for guide dogs).

If parents, carers or visitors do not accept our guidance the school may need to contact other authorities and possibly ban offenders from being on school grounds.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our school by abiding by the guidance and we thank you for your continuing support in creating a happy and safe school environment.

Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. St Mary's 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.

In the event that any pupil or parent of a child being educated at St Mary's 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 content or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent 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 publicly 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 aim to resolve your concerns amicably, however if you do have any concerns please contact the class teacher in the first instance. If the matter remains unresolved it will be dealt with by the Assistant Head with referral to the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors if necessary, so it can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.