
NUNNEY FIRST SCHOOL

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT



Parent Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct is an unsigned agreement between the Parent, Carer, Visitor and staff of Nunney First School.

At Nunney First School we are proud of the fact that we have a dedicated and supportive school community. At Nunney First School, staff, governors, parents and carers recognise that the education of the children on roll is a partnership between all of us.

We expect our school community to respect our school ethos, keep our school tidy, set a good example of their own behaviour both on school premises and when accompanying classes on school visits.

In addition, we expect our parents, carers and visitors to keep our children safe by adhering to the school's request to park safely outside the school during morning and afternoon collections and to observe the social distancing procedures we have in place at times when these are required.

As a partnership we are all aware of the importance of good working relationships and recognise the importance of these in equipping our children with the necessary skills for their education. For these reasons we will continue to welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish the expectations around the conduct of all parents, carers and visitors connected to our school. We are committed to resolving difficulties and differences of opinion in a constructive manner, through an open and positive dialogue. However we understand that everyday misunderstandings can cause frustrations and have a negative impact on relationships.

Where issues arise or misconceptions take place, we ask parents to contact their child's teacher or the Headteacher, who will discuss the matter with them with a view to resolving situations that have resulted in heightened emotions. Where issues remain unresolved, please follow the Trust's Complaints Procedure. This is available on the school website or a copy can be requested from the school office.

This Code aims to clarify the types of behaviour that will not be tolerated and seeks parental agreement to these expectations. The Code of Conduct also sets out the actions the school can take should this Code be ignored or where breaches occur.

Behaviour that will not be tolerated:

- disruptive behaviour that interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the schools normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises
- any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises
- using loud or offensive language or displaying temper
- threatening in any way, a member of staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or child
- damaging or destroying school property;
- sending abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to anyone within the school community
- defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff/governors at the school on Facebook or other sites
- use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child; this includes physical punishment of 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, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises (alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events)
- dogs being brought on to the school premises (other than guide dogs)

Should any of the above occur on school premises or in connection with school, the school may feel it is necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities. The school may also consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises. Thank you for abiding by this Code in our school.

Together we create a positive and uplifting environment not only for the children but also for all who work and visit our school. It is important for parents and carers to make sure any persons collecting their children are aware of this policy.

What happens if someone ignores or breaks the code?

In the event of a parent/carer or visitor breaking this Code then proportionate actions will be taken as follows:

- 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. This will include any or all cases of threats or violence and actual violence to any child, staff member or governor in the school. Anything that could be seen as a sign of harassment of any member of the school

community, such as any form of insulting social media post or any form of social media cyber bullying will be dealt with in the same manner.

- In cases where the Code of Conduct has been broken but the breach was not a libellous, slanderous or criminal matter, then the school will send a formal letter to the parent/carer inviting them to a meeting to discuss the matter. If the parent/carer refuses to attend the meeting then the school will write to the parent/carer and ask them to stop the behaviour causing the concern and warn them that if the behaviour does not cease, they may be banned from the school premises.

If the behaviour continues, the parent/carer will again be written to and informed that a ban is now in place.

Note:

(1) In more serious cases, a ban from coming onto the school site can be introduced without having to go through the steps cited above.

(2) Site bans will normally be timeframed in the first instance.

Issues of conduct with the use of social media

Most people take part in online activities and social media. This can be interesting and keeps us connected. The Parent and Staff Association (PSA) has a Facebook page, which allows parents to receive and respond to messages about PSA and school events. We encourage you to positively participate.

However, we ask that you use polite and constructive language when discussing school life on-line.

‘Think before you post’

We ask that social media, whether public or private, is not used to voice complaints about the school, staff, parents or children.

We take very seriously, inappropriate use of social media by a parent to publicly humiliate or criticise another parent, member of staff, governor/s or child. If parents have any concerns about their child in relation to the school they should:

1. Contact the class teacher for a discussion in the first instance.
2. If the concern remains, contact the Headteacher.
3. If still unresolved, contact the Governing Body through the Complaints Procedure.

Parents should not use social media as a medium to air concerns or grievances.

Online activity, which we consider inappropriate:

- identifying or posting images/videos of children at school events
- abusive or personal comments about staff, governors, children or other parents
- bringing the school into disrepute
- posting defamatory or libellous comments
- e-mails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff or children
- using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children or members of staff
- threatening behaviour such as verbally intimidating staff or using bad language
- breaching school security procedures.

At our school we take our safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents appropriately and in line with the actions outlined above.

Approved by Local Governing Body: 8th February 2021

Review Period: Annually

Next Review: February 2022