



Abbots Langley School

Inspiring life-long learners

Parent / Carer Code of Conduct

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body on a two-yearly basis.

This policy was reviewed and updated in **October 2018**

Next review date: **October 2020**

At Abbots Langley Primary School we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent/carer body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, staff and the school community. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

All members of our school community have a right to expect that their school is a safe and positive environment in which to work and learn. The purpose of this Parent/Carer Code of Conduct is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the **expected** conduct. This is so we can continue to work together, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

There is absolutely no place for violence, threatening behaviour, harassment or abuse in our school. Violence, threatening behaviour, harassment and abuse against school staff or other members of our school community will not be tolerated. Whilst disrespectful behaviour from parents is very rare, we need to have a Code of Conduct in place to safeguard the children and staff.

Guidance

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

- Respect the caring ethos of our school.
- Understand that both staff and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- 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.
- Work together with staff for the benefit of children. This includes approaching the school to resolve any issues of concern and to discuss and clarify specific events in order to bring about a positive solution.
- Correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot and will not tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting 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.
- Using loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using disrespectful language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- 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/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites. (See Appendix 1)
- Using equipment to record conversations with members of staff or governors.
- 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 and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property or accessing the school site whilst intoxicated.

The above behaviours on school premises will be reported to the appropriate authorities and Governors may, if necessary, prohibit an offending adult from entering the school grounds. At all times, the common purpose remains clear – to achieve zero tolerance of violence, threatening behaviour, harassment or abuse in our school and ensure all members of the school community and its visitors can be confident that they are operating within a safe environment. We expect that parents will make all persons responsible for collecting their child aware of this Code of Conduct.

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

Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social Network Site

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governing Body of Abbots Langley Primary School 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. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil, or parent/carer/sibling of a child being educated at Abbots Langley Primary School 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 contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer/sibling 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. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.