



Parents' Code of Conduct

A Code of conduct for Parents, Carers and Visitors

Rationale

Tarporley CE Primary School is a welcoming, supportive and inclusive school and it is important that all members of the school community work together. We are proud of our good reputation and we depend on the entire school community to help us maintain and improve our children's learning.

We are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents and carers. Our parents/carers recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between home and school and understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood.

For these reasons we welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school, through avenues such as the PTA.

The purpose of this code is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors about expected conduct to ensure a safe and positive environment for our children.

Respect and concern for others and their rights.

Parents and carers are allowed on to school premises by permission of the school; this may be withdrawn if necessary.

We expect parents, carers and visitors to show respect and consideration for others by:-

- supporting the respectful Christian ethos of the school by setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards members of the school community both on school premises and in its immediate area;
- allowing plenty of time so that children arrive ready for a punctual start to the school day, to avoid disruption to their own learning and that of the entire class;
- not entering the classrooms if your child is late – parents/carers/adults should report to the school office where your child will be signed in and then make their own way to class or be escorted by a member of staff;
- requesting appointments and messages for the class teacher only through the school office via telephone, email to admin@tarporleyce.cheshire.sch.uk or via written request;
- working together with all staff for the benefit of the children. We ask you to contact the school to deal with any issues of concern. The school will discuss and clarify specific events, issues and queries in order to bring about a positive solution;
- not bringing animals onto school grounds for health and safety reasons, unless it is for educational purposes and with the express prior permission from the Head teacher;

- parking carefully and in good time for the safety of the children. Parking on the staff carpark for parents is not permitted due to limited spaces.

In order to support the Christian ethos of the school, we will not tolerate:-

- disruptive behaviour which interferes with teaching, learning or administration within the school;
- using loud and/or offensive language or displaying temper;
- threatening, aggressive or intimidating conversations or behaviour towards another adult or child;
- abusive, threatening or damaging emails, phone, text or social media messages relating to the school.

The Head Teacher and the School Governors may prohibit an adult from entering the school grounds to safeguard our school community. Adverse behaviour may be reported to the appropriate authorities.

Sanctions

Each breach of the Parents' code of conduct will be dealt with on an individual basis. This may result in one or more of the following depending on the severity of the breach:

- A verbal warning.
- A written warning.
- Prohibition from entering the school grounds for a set period.
- Behaviour being reported to the appropriate authorities.

Review

The Governing Body reviews this policy every two years. The Governors may however, review the policy earlier than this, if the government introduces new regulations, or following an incident.

Reviewed: July 2023

Appendix 1:

Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

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

The Governors consider 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 student or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the school is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on sites such as Facebook, What's App, Twitter or any 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 or student 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

Appendix 2:

WhatsApp Groups

To aid communication between parents and carers many of our classes have WhatsApp groups, which operate independently of the school.

Class WhatsApp Groups

Class WhatsApp groups are a very useful and efficient way of communicating to the whole class. The aim of using WhatsApp is to send messages to an entire group, which are relevant to school.

The messages in the class WhatsApp groups come from parents in their personal capacity. The school does not post directly on any WhatsApp parent/carer groups.

We believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and pupils (through our behaviour policy).

This WhatsApp code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

Parents should adhere to the following guidelines when using class WhatsApp groups:

- The group should never be used as a platform to air views/grievances regarding a teacher, child or parent in the class or school
- The group is not a political platform for airing opinions on current affairs
- The group should not be used for private conversations with anyone else using the group
- The group should be used keeping in mind mutual respect and cultural sensitivity between all its members

We expect parents, carers to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

Please note, the school considers the following online activity inappropriate:

- Abusive or personal comments about staff, pupils or other parents or any member of the schools community
- Displays of anger including swearing, or using offensive language
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Posting aggressive, defamatory or libellous comments
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff, pupils or any member of the schools community
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children
- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language

The school takes safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents appropriately.

Raising Concerns

If you are concerned about inappropriate comments on a class WhatsApp group, in confidence, please contact our Senior Leadership Team by emailing the school admin@tarporleyce.cheshire.sch.uk

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct detailed above, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent about the incident and follow the parent code of code if a breach is deemed to have occurred.

