



**North Cornwall
Learning Trust**

Working Together for Local Children

PARENT/CARER CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

January 2021

Version 1

We are very fortunate to have a very supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents/carers recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents/carers 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.

The purpose of this policy 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 flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos and values of our school.
- 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 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 own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behavior.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.
- Be responsible for your child's behaviour at any school related events such as discos, fairs.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot 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 including team matches.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or student 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 students/parents/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites. (See below). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child.
- 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 school premises (other than guide dogs).

Should any of the above occur on school premises or at a school linked event, the parent/carer will be asked to leave the premises voluntarily. Failing this, the school may feel it is necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities and/or sadly, consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises.

If parents have any concerns about their child in relation to the school as we have said above they should:

1. Initially contact the class teacher by making an appointment through the office to talk.
2. If the concern remains they should contact the Headteacher by making an appointment.
3. If still unresolved, they should contact school governors through the complaints procedure

Issues of conduct with the use of Social Media

Most people take part in online activities and social media. It's fun, interesting and keeps us connected. Within these spaces however, we ask that you use common sense when discussing school life online.

'Think before you post' We ask that social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, 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 or child. 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.

Online activity, which we consider inappropriate:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of children
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, governors, children or other parents
- Bringing the school in disrepute
- Posting defamatory or libelous comments
- Emails 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 in line with the actions outlined above. Thankfully, such incidents are extremely rare.

We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

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

Social Distancing during the Covid 19 pandemic

Please can we ask that just 1 parent/carer comes into the school grounds.

We ask that you socially distance from staff, other parents and other children and do not come into the school building.

Please also be mindful of other parents and children at drop off and collection time as they may be in a different bubble.

If you would like this in a different format please contact the school

Version and Date		Action/Notes
1.0	January 2021	New policy adapted for NCLT – Phil Banks

Policy Reviewed:	January 2021
Next Review:	January 2022