

Kenningtons Primary Academy
Parent Code of Conduct Policy
May 2017

This policy complies with Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 (the provisions of which have been tightened under Schedule 20 of the Education Act 2002) which states that 'any person who is present without lawful authority on the premises (including playgrounds, playing fields and other premises for outdoor recreation) is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.'

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

1. School Ethos

- We welcome visitors to our school

- We will act to ensure it remains a safe place for pupils, staff and other members of the community

- We will be polite to you

- We will treat you with respect. We expect the same in return.

2. 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 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 their own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.

- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.

- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

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 pupil 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 pupils/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Head teacher 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. 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.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises with the exception of guide dogs.
- Action will be taken against any person acting in an abusive or threatening manner towards any members of our school community.

3. Procedure

When a parent or member of the public behaves in an unacceptable way towards a member of school staff, the Headteacher or appropriate senior staff will seek to resolve the situation through discussion and mediation. If necessary, the school's complaint procedure should be followed. Where all procedures have been exhausted, and aggression or intimidation continue, or where there is an extreme act of violence, a parent or carer may be prohibited from accessing some or all of the school site by the Headteacher for a period of time, subject to review.

Please note in all cases where an incident involving unacceptable behaviour has occurred, details will be recorded on the Poor Conduct Incident Reporting form (Appendix 2) and filed.

In the event the Headteacher revokes permission for a parent or member of the public to access the school premises, the following steps will be taken:

1. In some circumstances a letter reminding parents/visitors of conduct expectations will be sent that warns of the possibility of exclusion from the premises if unacceptable behaviour continues
2. The parent will be informed in writing that s/he is excluded from the premises, subject to review, and what will happen if this is breached e.g. that an injunction may follow
3. Where an assault has led to exclusion from the premises, a statement indicating that the matter has been reported to the Police will be included
4. The Chair of Governors will be informed
5. Where appropriate, arrangements for pupils being delivered to and collected from the school office will be clarified.

Please note where a parent's behaviour is either continuously unacceptable or serious, it will not be possible to continue working with him/her and, as a last resort, legal action may be taken.

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.

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body: *Sarah Deery* (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)

Date adopted: 26/05/17.

Date for review: MAY 2020

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 Governors of Kenningtons Primary Academy 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 of a child/ren being educated in the Kenningtons Primary Academy 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 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 would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

