



Code of Conduct for Interaction within our School Community

INTRODUCTION

At Clifton-upon-Teme Primary School, we recognise that educating children is a process that involves building partnerships between parents/carers, school employees and members of the wider community. We appreciate the vital importance of establishing respectful relationships, as this not only allows us to work together for the benefit of the children, but also serves to demonstrate clearly to them the nature of high-quality, respectful relationships.

RATIONALE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the expectations for the conduct of all persons who have cause to interact with members of our school community. Such conduct will ensure that Clifton-upon-Teme Primary School continues to flourish, and foster relationships based on mutual respect.

We expect all persons who have communication with our school:

- To respect the caring ethos of our school
- To approach school staff calmly and rationally with any issues of concern
- To recognise that all adults need to work together for the benefit of pupils
- To demonstrate that all members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech, behaviour and written communication
- To seek, when there is disagreement or conflict, to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in an attempt to bring about a balanced and peaceful solution to any issue
- To correct own child's actions, especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour
- To avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's unacceptable behaviour

The school will not tolerate the following:

- Disruption which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area on or off the school grounds, including at team matches
- Shouting
- Displaying anger or intimidating behaviour
- Use of offensive language, swearing, cursing, use of profane language
- 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
- Damaging or destroying school employees' or Governors' 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/parents/staff/Governors at the school on any social networking sites. Any concerns you may have about the school 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
- The use of physical aggression towards another. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises, or at school events
- Approaching someone else's child in order to chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be interpreted as an assault on that child and may have legal consequences)
- Smoking or vaping on school property
- Consumption of alcohol on school property other than at licensed school events, and only then in moderation (action will be taken to protect children from adults whose judgement is deemed to be impaired by alcohol consumption)
- The use of non-medicinal drugs on school property or at school events (action will be taken to protect children from adults whose judgement is deemed to be impaired by drugs)
- Dogs being brought on to school premises

Should any of the above occur the Headteacher will consider whether to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, take action to ban the offending adult from entering the school or its grounds, or from attending school-run events.

INAPPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORK MEDIA

Statistics show that the prevalence of social network sites being used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff/Governors, and in some cases other parents or pupils is regrettably on the rise.

The Governing Body of Clifton-upon-Teme Primary School considers the use of social network media used in this way unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the school community. Any concerns you may have should 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. (Please see the school's Complaints Procedure)

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child being educated at Clifton-upon-Teme Primary School, or any person connected with them is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the social 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 request that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately. In serious cases the school, in conjunction with the Local Authority, will also consider legal options to deal with any such action which has damaged its reputation unfairly.

Additionally, and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber-bullying, and the use of social network media by a person to publicly humiliate another. We will construe and deal with this as a serious incident of bullying.

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

Policy reviewed and revised by the Governing Body July 2018