



# Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

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<b>Ratified By</b>	FGB
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<b>Approved and Authorised By</b>	
<b>Statutory</b>	
<b>On school website</b>	Yes
<b>Rationale</b>	
<b>Main updates since last policy</b>	Section 5 public order where police will be called.
This policy has been impact assessed against race, gender and disability and no adverse impact has been identified	

# PARENT/CARER CODE OF CONDUCT

## Mission Statement

*Inspiring excellence, everyday, everyone.*

## Code of Conduct

At Wessex School we value our strong relationship with parents and carers. Together this helps us achieve the very best for the children in a mutually supportive partnership between parents/carers, class teachers and the school community.

As a partnership, our parents understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip their children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continually welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

To truly create the best outcomes for children, the relationship between home and school must be based on the principles of care, integrity, trust and mutual respect. The maintenance of this relationship is important to ensure that all children are kept safe (please read our Safeguarding Policy) and not open to undue distress and anxiety.

## Guidance

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home/School Agreement and holding the above principles in mind, parents, carers and visitors are reminded:

- To respect the caring ethos and values of the school
- That both teachers and parents/carers need to work together for the benefit of their children
- That approaching school staff for help to resolve an issue should be done in an appropriate manner
- That all members of the school community should be treated with respect using appropriate language and behaviour
- That in the event of an issue, the school will need to work with a child in order to clarify their version of events and bring about an appropriate solution
- To correct their child's actions especially where it could lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour – both on and off the school premises
- To remind children of our school values of positivity, honesty, respect and pride.

**In order to support a peaceful, respectful and safe school environment the school will not tolerate parents, carers or visitors exhibiting the following:**

- Any inappropriate or disruptive behaviour on the school premises
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper or physical aggression towards another adult or child
- Threatening, in any way, a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Sending abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications to anyone within the school community
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school, on Facebook, WhatsApp or other social media sites
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on the school premises. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events)
- Dogs being brought onto school premises (other than assistance dogs).

Should **any** of the above occur on school premises the school may need to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities and/or consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises. A site ban will be made after discussions between the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors.

If you are banned from the premises then you will be unable to pass the school gate and would need to arrange for someone else to drop off or pick up your child. Failure to abide by this ban could see a prosecution under the Education Act and the police being called.

If we deem a parent to be aggressive through either using abusive language or threatening / actual violence then we will call the police where you could be arrested under section 5 public order offences.

All staff have the right to work in a calm happy environment, they are all empowered to stop meetings they feel uncomfortable in and to walk away. If this happens then we will offer a further meeting once time has been given to reflect on conduct. This may be with a senior leader.

### **Inappropriate use of Social Media**

Unfortunately schools are experiencing an increasing number of situations where social media has been the vehicle for inappropriate behaviour by both pupils and parents.

We live in a society where we are proud of our right to freedom of speech and would not wish to suggest that this should be curtailed in any way. There are occasions however when things said in the virtual world are at best unhelpful and at worst, may constitute unlawful harassment, bullying or intimidation.

Therefore, we ask:

- If you are posting on social media and it relates to the school, pupils or other parents, please check your facts, be considerate in the way in which you express things and avoid language that others might consider to be abusive, aggressive or threatening
- Please do not refer to individual pupils or staff on social media
- If you have a significant concern about an aspect of school life, please talk to someone at the school rather than posting on social media
- If you have a specific complaint, please follow the school's Complaints Policy which is available on the school website.

Thank you for abiding by this Policy. Together we create a positive and uplifting environment, not only for the children but also for those who work and visit our school.

Strong action will be taken if any of our staff or children witness aggressive language or threatening behaviour.

Note: Please ensure all persons responsible for dropping and collecting children are made aware of this Policy.