

The Academy at St. James

Parent Code of Conduct

At The Academy at St. James we are very fortunate to have many supportive and friendly parents.

Educating children involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, all parties need to recognise the importance of a good working relationship to ensure children leave our school ready for the next stage of the education and development. 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

learn and work together to achieve our best where children are encouraged to appreciate others and develop attitudes of tolerance, care, concern and self-respect in a happy, safe and secure environment.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to

- Respect the caring ethos of our school
- Understand that teachers, parents, carers governors and visitors 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 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 happy, safe and secure environment, school cannot tolerate any member of the school community exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the well-being of children or staff in a classroom, a member of staff's office, the office area or any other area of the school grounds including school or on school educational visits or at school events and social occasions.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, displaying temper or using sexualised gestures.
- 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.
- Making abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Posting 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 including the use of E Cigarettes, consumption of alcohol or taking or distribution of illegal drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises.
- Using mobile phones to make or record digital images of a child other than their own without the permission of the child's parent or carer or of a member of staff or governor during a conversation or meeting. (See Appendix 2).

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

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.

Agreed by Governors

Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social Network Site

Social media websites are being used increasingly to complain about activities in schools, school staff, and in some cases other parents or the actions of pupils.

The Governors of The Academy at St. James 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 in line with the school's Complaints Policy.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at The Academy at St. James 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. These incidents are extremely rare.

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

Appendix 2

Use of mobile phones and any other devices, that can record or make images digital or otherwise on the school premises.

The school premises being any part of the school grounds after blue electronic gate and within the perimeter fencing either inside or outside the actual school building.

In order to support a happy, safe and secure environment, the following applies relating to the use of mobile phones and any other devices that can record or make images digital or otherwise

- Mobile phones must be turned to silent mode after signing in and entering the school building.
- Adults using mobile phones and any other devices that can record or make images digital or otherwise must ensure the necessary locks and passwords are in place to protect children from accessing personal information and images.
- Mobile phones and any other devices that can record or make images digital or otherwise must not be used to record or make images of children other than your own, members of staff, members of the governing body or visitors without first obtaining permission to do so from either the parent of the child or the adult. This includes while dropping off and collecting from school, in conversation or a meeting with members of staff or governors, at school events, on a school visits or at a social occasions or while assisting or taking part in or on a school events or visits.
- Mobile phones must not be used to make or receive phone calls in a classroom, teaching space or any another part of the school or whilst helping at or on a school visit where children or other adults could overhear the conversation. In an emergency situation the school will provide an appropriate space in which to make or receive phone calls.