# Mersey Park Primary School Parent/Carer Code of Conduct



### Statement of principles

The governing body of Mersey Park Primary School encourages close links with parents and the community. It believes that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one.

The vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our school are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. However, on the rare occasions when a negative attitude towards the school is expressed, this can result in aggression, verbal and or physical abuse towards members of school staff or the wider school community.

The governing body expects and requires its members of staff to behave professionally in these difficult situations and attempt to defuse the situation where possible, seeking the involvement as appropriate of other colleagues. However, all members of staff have the right to work without fear of violence and abuse.

We expect parents and other visitors to behave in a reasonable way towards members of school staff. This policy outlines the steps that will be taken where behaviour is unacceptable.

### **Code of Conduct**

At Mersey Park Primary 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, 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 or carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

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

# Guidance

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 need to work together for the benefit of their children
- Approaching school staff for help to resolve an issue is done in an appropriate manner
- All members of the school community are treated with respect using appropriate language and behaviour
- The school needs to work with a child in order to clarify their version of events in order to bring about an appropriate solution to an issue
- To correct their child's actions especially where it could lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviourboth on and off the school premises

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

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's operation or activities anywhere on the school premises
- Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper

- Threatening, in any way, a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil
- Damaging school property
- Sending abusive or threatening e-mails 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 or other social sites (see Appendix 1)
- The use of physical or verbal aggression towards another adult or child.
- 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, taking legal illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises

Should any of the above occur on school premises the school may feel it necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities and/ or sadly, consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises.

Thank you for abiding by this policy in our school. Together we create a positive environment not only for the children but also all who work and visit our school.

Note: Can parents please ensure they make all persons responsible for collecting their children aware of this policy.

## **APPENDIX 1**

# **Inappropriate use of Social Network Site**

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, school staff and in some cases other parents or pupils.

The Department for Education/ Government and Governors at Mersey Park Primary School considers the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable. Any concerns you may have about school or your child/children must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, where they will be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

# **Libellous or Defamatory Posts**

In the event that any pupil or parent/ carer of a child at Mersey Park Primary School 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 content or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer removes such content immediately.

# **Cyber bullying**

We take very seriously the use of cyber bullying 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.

The school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse on social networking and other sites.





# Parents and Visitors Code of Conduct

At Mersey Park Primary School, we welcome visitors to our school.

We will act to ensure it remains a safe place for pupils, staff and all other members of our community.

If you have concerns we will always listen to them and seek to address them.

Please be aware, however, that abusive, threatening or violent behaviour will not be tolerated in this school. Anyone behaving in such a way will be asked to leave; they may receive a ban from the premises and their behaviour may be reported to the police.

Inappropriate language, threats or acts of aggression towards staff will not be tolerated on these premises.