

Parent, Carer & Visitor Code of Conduct

This is an unsigned document which we expect all parents and carers to abide by at all times. We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

At Braywick Court School, we are extremely fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children effectively is a process that involves partnership between parents, staff and the wider school community. As partners, our parents 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/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this document 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.

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School Agreement, we expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect and model the caring ethos of our school whenever on school premises or when communicating directly with the school.
- Understand that school staff and parents need to work together for the benefit of all.
- Demonstrate that all members of the school community should be treated with tolerance and respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech, conduct 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 right member of school staff to help resolve any issues or concern. Please refer to the guidelines about which staff member to contact about specific issues.
- Adhere to the school travel plan at all times

In order to support a harmonious and safe school environment, the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the schools normal 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 staff, visitor, fellow parent/carers or child.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending aggressive, abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff/governors at the school on Facebook or other sites
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them for any reason. Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences.
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events)

The school reserves the right to refuse to engage with anyone displaying any of the behaviour above. Staff may close the interaction down or ask a person to leave the school premises as they see fit given the circumstances.

Should **any** of the mentioned 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.

Use of Social Media

We ask that social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, school staff, parents or children.

We take the inappropriate use of social media by a parent to publicly humiliate or criticise another parent, member of staff or child, very seriously.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in Braywick Court 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 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.

The use of social media to publicly humiliate another is a form of cyber bullying and the school will deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

Online activity which we consider inappropriate:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of children other than your own and without permission from the child's parent(s)
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, governors, children or other parents
- Bringing the school in disrepute
- Posting defamatory or libellous comments
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff or children
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children or members of staff
- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language
- Breaching school security procedures