



Swimbridge C of E Primary School

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR FROM PARENTS & VISITORS POLICY

Rationale:

At Swimbridge CE Primary School we believe staff, parents, visitors and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to visit, learn and work. Behaviour that causes harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is therefore contrary to the ethos and core values of the school.

Aim:

That all members of the school community are dignified and treat each other with respect

Expectations:

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community
- That no members of staff, parents or children are the victims of abusive behaviour, defamatory comments or open to threats from other adults on the school premises
- Physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language verbal or written, to staff, governors, parents and carers, children and other users of the school premises will not be tolerated and will result in withdrawal of permission to be on school premises

Any parent who is asked to leave the school premises will have the right to appeal the decision by writing to the Chair of Governors

Please note that incidents of rudeness will be logged with the Chair of Governors.

Persons Causing Nuisance / Disturbance on School Premises

Section 547 of the Education Act 1996

School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on school premises. However, in case of abuse, rudeness or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, the school may ban parents from entering the school premises.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist in removing the person concerned.

The school is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

Guidelines:

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated towards any member of the school community (This is not an exhaustive list, but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour):

- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone
- Inappropriate posting on Social Networking sites which could bring the school into disrepute or be deemed as bullying
- Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone
- Defamatory comments
- Rudeness of any kind
- Physically intimidating , e.g. standing very close
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements
- Physical threats
- Shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Swearing
- Pushing
- Hitting e.g. slapping, punching or kicking
- Spitting
- Racist or sexist comments including sexual innuendo

Inappropriate use of Social Networking Sites:

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases, other parents/pupils. The Governors of Swimbridge CE Primary School consider 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, Headteacher or Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned. Please see our complaints procedure for further information.

Social Media Misuse:

Personnel Governor Committee Delegated Policy, Approved October 2018 (4 yr cycle)

- In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child being educated in Swimbridge CE Primary 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 expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.
- In serious cases the school will consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites.

Cyber Bullying:

This is the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry.

- We will take and deal with cyber bullying as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.
- The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to abuse.
- Unacceptable behaviour may result in the Police being informed.

Parents have the right of appeal by writing to the Chair of Governors within ten days of permission to enter the school premises being withdrawn.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher and governors to monitor and review this policy.

Appendix 1

Procedure to address inappropriate behaviour by adults on the school site.

At Swimbridge CE Primary School we operate a 'zero tolerance' rule with regard to the use of inappropriate behaviour* anywhere on the school site.

*Inappropriate behaviour means disrespectful conduct towards people or property within the school site.

Our Acceptable Behaviour from Parents and Visitors Policy states:

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community
- That no members of staff, parents or children are the victims of abusive behaviour or open to threats from other adults on the school premises.

All staff and governors agree that any adult found to be using inappropriate behaviour towards other adults or children should be dealt with using the following steps:

An adult approaches another child	The adult will be spoken to immediately and the issue investigated by a school leader. This will be reported to the Headteacher and recorded. The adult will receive a warning letter.
A parent** approaches another parent**.	The parent should report this to a member of staff or a school leader. The offending parent/s will be spoken to as soon as possible after the incident and reminded that we have a zero tolerance of inappropriate behaviour. A letter will be given to the parent/s. This warns a parent that if it recurs they could be banned from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.
A parent** approaches a member of staff.	This should be reported immediately to the Headteacher. This will be investigated as soon as possible and the member of staff will be informed of the action taken. The parent/adult will be spoken to and given a warning letter. This warns the parent/s that if it recurs they could be banned from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996.
Recurring inappropriate behaviour.	If a parent/s continues to use inappropriate behaviour, they will be referred to the Policy for Parental Behaviour. This indicates how anti-social behaviour, when not corrected, can lead to interviews with the HT and Governors. This can then lead to a ban from the school site under section 547 of the Education Act 1996. **For 'parent' read for any adult who accompanies children onto the school site.

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