

WEST DERBY SCHOOL



Parent Code of Conduct Policy

This policy will be reviewed:	Bi- annually
Policy previously approved on:	N/A
Approved on:	25/01/2024
Next review date:	31/01/2026
Signed:	S Graham (Headteacher)

Introduction

West Derby School is committed to ensuring that all pupils, parents, staff and trustees work together in a safe and caring environment guided by our values of collective cooperation, mutual respect and courtesy. West Derby School believes that excellence for our pupils can only be achieved when all members of our community work together for the good of the pupils.

At West Derby School, our motto is to “be proud, aim high, work hard, be nice, no excuses” so that we can all “Walk as One”.

Mutual respect and courtesy applies to all members of the school community.

The purpose of this policy is to remind all parents and carers about their expected conduct when they contact or visit us. This is so we can continue to educate and care for our pupils within an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect our school values
- Understand that both teachers and parents 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 their own child’s behaviour, especially in public, where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour
- Use the appropriate channels of communication when approaching the school regarding any issues of concern
- Be patient when asking for responses to queries, telephone calls or emails and take into account the majority of staff are teachers so may not be able to respond immediately.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot accept any of the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes, or threatens to interfere, with the operation of the reception area, staff offices, a classroom or any other area of the school grounds including sports matches
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying angry, threatening or intimidatory behaviour
- Threatening to carry out actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, trustee, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil, regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Sending abusive or threatening emails or Weduc/text/voicemail/phone messages or any other form of written or verbal communication
- Making defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff whether at the school, on Facebook, on any other social media sites or gaming platforms that are written down or recorded. This could be in a letter, email, social media post or text message.
- Physical or verbal aggression towards another adult or child. This includes approaching another pupil of West Derby or 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 and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property

Please note:

- Unacceptable behaviour may result in the Police being informed.
- The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to abuse of any kind.
- School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on school premises by virtue of their child's placement at the school. However, in case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, school may ban parents from entering the school.
- It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1997 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.
- Parents/ carers have the right of appeal by writing to the Chair of Trustees within ten days of permission to enter the school premises being withdrawn

Thank you for your support and cooperation in enabling us to work together in order to support our pupils.

Appendix

Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

We are aware that social media websites are sometimes used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Trustees of West Derby School consider that social media websites being used in this way is 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 relevant member of staff so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child being educated at West Derby School is found to be posting libelous or defamatory comments on any 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 parents/carers 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/children or a parent/parents to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying

Where a child or their parent reports an incident claiming another child has used abusive, inappropriate or threatening language/communications against them via social network or gaming sites and that communication causes disruption in the school, then school will expect the parent/carer to support us in ensuring that the offending behaviour is modified and dealt with.

School appreciates that these activities take place away from school premises and outside of school time, but can have an impact on school time, learning and behaviour. Such disruption causes anxiety and stress and we appreciate parent/carers working with school when this has a direct impact on learning and school life in general

Misuse of photographs/video images

Photographs and video images of pupils and staff are defined as personal data under the data Protection Act 1998. Where a child or their parents/carers has reported that another child has taken an image of their child without consent, whether with the intent to distribute it via social media sites or not, then the parents/carers of the child holding/storing the image will be expected to work with the school to delete and remove the image accordingly. Such activities can cause undue stress to children and their parents/carers and this policy is aimed to protect those rights. Please be aware that some children may even have orders prohibiting the use of their image in the public domain.