

The Oval School



Parental Conduct Policy

Date Ratified: May 2017

Signed by: C. C. Hayes
On behalf of School Governors

Signed by: A. K. Chahal
Headteacher

Review Date: May 2020

Written With Guidance From School Support

The Oval School Parental Code Of Conduct Policy

The Oval School now has a parental code of conduct policy in line with other local schools, academies and consortium.

The Oval School is very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parent groups who recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, 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 and 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 whilst on school site or within the vicinity of the school. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Guidance

The Oval School expects parents, carers and visitors to:

- respect the caring ethos of our school
- understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of the children
- work with teachers towards the benefit of children's *wider* education
- 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 or unsafe behaviour
- approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern
- avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour
- in the interests of the children's health and safety there is a need to respect the law for example with regard to dog fouling, parking and speeding regulations

During meetings with parents about a pupil's work / health / behaviour, it is expected that pupils will remain outside the meeting and be called in when, and if, necessary. Pupils will not normally be part of the adult consultation on such matters unless, or until, both parents and school feel it is appropriate.

In order to support a peaceful and safe environment, the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following on school premises or within the vicinity of the school:

- disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches
- using loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper
- 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
- abusive, threatening or rude emails or text, voicemail, phone messages or other written communication
- defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents, staff at the school site, Facebook or other social sites (see appendix 1) – any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by using school's complaints and queries policy so that they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned
- harassing or intimidating pupils, parents or staff
- illegal parking or speeding (please note, as a warning, that school will report registered owners to the appropriate authorities)
- shouting at members of staff
- comments aimed to undermine or belittle pupils, parents and staff whether direct or indirect
- 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 and consumption or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs
- dogs (with the exception of disability dogs) being brought onto school premises or allowing fouling within the school vicinity

Should ANY of the above behaviour issues occur on school premises or within the vicinity of school, it may be felt necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and, if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

The Oval School trusts that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and would like to thank you for your continuing support of school.

The Oval School expects that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children from school 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, headteachers, school staff and, in some cases, other parents or pupils. **The governors of The Oval School consider the use of social media websites being used in this was 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 and following the complaints and queries policy so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil, parent or carer of a child(ren) being educated at The Oval 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 also expects that any parent, carer or pupil will remove such comments immediately. Further actions for the child, as per school's discipline policy, may also follow (exclusion for example).

The Facebook legal age is 13 years which means that no primary school pupils are legally entitled to be on Facebook.

In serious cases, 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 parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. School will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully, such incidents are extremely rare.