

## Parent & Visitor Conduct Policy

Person(s) Responsible: Headteacher

Formally adopted by the May 2025

Governing Body:

Last review: May 2025

Next review: May 2026

This policy also applies to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

#### Introduction

As well as being a place of learning, we are very fortunate that our school is a rich, diverse community made up of pupils, their families, members of staff and other adults drawn from a wide range of backgrounds. The safeguarding, wellbeing and education of our children is shaped by the countless positive relationships and strong partnerships that we all build each and every school day. By welcoming parents, wider family members and other adults into our school, we enable them to contribute fully to those successful relationships and partnerships.

#### **Aims**

The key aim of this document is to provide a framework for positive relationships between the school, parents and other adults who visit the school. It also seeks to clearly set out for all parties the school's expectations regarding both acceptable and unacceptable conduct in relation to day-to-day school life.

### School ethos and values

This policy is underpinned by and also seeks to uphold the caring ethos of the school and its core values. These are:

- Positivity
- Respect
- Inclusivity
- Discovery
- Endeavour

### Good conduct principles

It is vitally important that all adult members of the school community and visitors to BHPS share our commitment to the school's ethos, vision and values, particularly the values of positivity, respect and inclusivity.

We therefore expect all adults, including parents and carers, to adhere to the following conduct principles at all times:

- Be role models for the caring ethos of our school and our school values
- Treat other members of the school community and the wider community with respect.
- Treat all others, without exception, with kindness in their words and actions.
- Engage positively with school staff, especially in challenging circumstances, so that we can work together for the benefit of all.
- Bring any concerns to the school's attention at the earliest opportunity so that the circumstances can be investigated and a resolution can be sought.
- Understand that both children and adults may hold different perspectives on the same issue.
- Ensure that their own child's behaviour, and that of any child they are responsible for, is consistent with the school's expectations on the school site and on the journey to/from school.
- Where it falls short of the school's expectations, correct their own child's behaviour choices, particularly where that behaviour may cause risk, harm or offence to others.
- Refrain from the use of language, whether directly or indirectly, which may be considered discriminatory or may cause offence to others.

The school will not tolerate:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the smooth running of the school and school activities, including extra-curricular activities.
- The use of loud or offensive language/swearing or any displays of verbal or physical aggression or anger.
- Threats of actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent, carer or pupil or any other member of the school's wider community regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.

- Abusive or threatening e-mails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the school staff, Governors, visitors, parents, carers or students, or any other member of the school's wider community on social media platforms. (See Wider conduct including social media).
- Any parent or carer approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of their actions/perceived actions.
- Smoking, vaping or consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises with the exception of assistance or therapy dogs whose presence has been agreed in advance.

### All parents will be required to sign a copy of the Good Conduct Agreement (please see appendix 1) at the start of each academic year either digitally HERE or in paper form.

### Disturbances on school premises

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

It is 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. Individuals found to be causing a disturbance or breaching the school's conduct expectations may be banned from entering the school premises. In such cases, the school is not responsible for organising arrangements for children. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing/collecting children to/from school.

# Wider conduct including social media

Members of the school community, including parents and carers, must refrain from making defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of its pupils, parents, Governors or staff, whether in person or via messaging platforms and social media.

Social media websites are sometimes used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools or to share inappropriate information. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Making allegations against other children or school community members
- Naming children involved in incidents
- Sharing confidential information regarding an aspect of school life
- Circulating rumours, inaccurate information or false news.

At BHPS we are clear the behaviour outlined in the points above is unacceptable and does not demonstrate a commitment to the school's ethos and values or to effective partnership working. Furthermore, abusive, defamatory or even libelous comments will, when appropriate, be reported to other relevant agencies/organisations including the police, Children's Services and, where they constitute a breach of user agreements, social media moderating bodies. In serious cases, the school will also consider its legal options when responding to any such misuse of social networking and other sites.

#### Breach of good conduct

If a breach of conduct has occurred, the following steps will be taken:

- If safe and appropriate to do so, a member of staff or senior leadership will speak with the
  parent or carer to explain the inappropriate behaviour and remind them of the expected
  conduct.
- If the behaviour continues or is more serious, a formal letter will be sent to the parent or carer outlining the concerns and the expectations moving forward.
- Communication may be restricted to specific channels (e.g., written only) and/or through designated staff members.

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- In cases of serious or repeated misconduct, the parent or carer may be temporarily or permanently banned from the school premises in accordance with Section 547 of the Education Act 1996.
- In cases involving threats, violence, or criminal behaviour, the school may report the matter to the police or local authority.

### Reporting concerns

Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the Class Teacher, a member of the Senior Leadership Team or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned in line with any relevant school policies and procedures.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually.

#### **Appendix 1: Good Conduct Agreement template**

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We therefore expect all parents and carers to adhere to the following conduct principles at all times:

- Treat other members of the school community and the wider community with respect.
- Be role models for the caring ethos of our school by treating all others, without exception, with kindness in their words and actions.
- Engage positively with school staff, especially in challenging circumstances, so that we can work together for the benefit of all.
- Bring any concerns to the school's attention at the earliest opportunity so that the circumstances can be investigated and a resolution can be sought.
- Understand that both children and adults may hold different perspectives on the same issue.
- Ensure that their own child's behaviour, and that of any child they are responsible for, is consistent with the school's expectations on the school site and on the journey to/from school.
- Where it falls short of the school's expectations, correct their own child's behaviour choices, particularly where that behaviour may cause risk, harm or offence to others.
- Refrain from the use of language, whether directly or indirectly, which may be considered discriminatory or may cause offence to others.

I understand the commitment that I am making to maintaining good conduct on the school site and any journeys to/from school.

I understand that if my conduct falls short of this commitment, the school may take further action to restrict my access to the school site. Where appropriate, the school may engage with other agencies, including the police, to secure my ongoing good conduct.

Parent name:		
Parent signature:		
Signed on behalf of the school:		
Date:		