**WHITCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

***Achieving Our Best Together***

**Parent and visitor behaviour and conduct guidance**

**Introduction**

We are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. We all recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents/carers will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to encourage and welcome parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

**Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this policy is to clarify expectations and provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the acceptable standard of conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

**Guidance**

**We expect parents, carers and visitors to:**

• Raise any concerns you may have about your child, another child or the school through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, Headteacher, Deputy Head or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

• Respect the caring ethos and values of our school.

The school ethos is ‘achieving our best together’ and the school values are: Respect, Excellence, Determination, Courage, Awareness and Friendship

To support the school with the active promotion of the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

• Understand that teachers, parents and volunteers 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 in order to bring about a resolution to any issue.

• Encourage your child to behave in the expected way whilst on the school premises.

• Approach the school at the first instance to help resolve any issues of concern.

• Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children’s behaviour.

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

• 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 behaving in an aggressive manner.

• Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a pupil, parent/carer, member of school staff, Governor, visitor, regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.

• Damaging or destroying school property.

• Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication

• Defamatory comments regarding pupils, parents, staff or governors on Facebook or other social media sites.(See Appendix 1).

• The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child.

• 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 of alcohol (unless at a licensed or organised PTA event) or other drugs whilst on school property.

• Dogs being brought on to school premises.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds. We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Appendix 1:

Inappropriate use of social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against pupils, families, the school, Headteachers and/or school staff. The Governors considers 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, the Headteacher, the Deputy Head or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any student or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the 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 contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or student 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 or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.