



# Parent Code of Conduct

At Oakthorpe Primary School, we welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate in the life and learning of their children in our school.

The purpose of this document is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about their expected conduct. This is so that we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

## **At Oakthorpe Primary School we expect parents, carers and visitors to:**

- Respect the ethos of our school.
- Understand that both staff 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 along 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.
- Approach the school in a non-aggressive manner to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

## **Oakthorpe Primary School will not 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, the office area or any other area of the school grounds, including the playground.
- Using rude/offensive language, swearing, cursing, using disrespectful language or displaying temper.
- Disturbing school staff and trying to speak to them whilst they are supervising children.
- Breaching school security procedures, e.g. entering school gates without using the intercom system when other parents are leaving or entering the building.
- Attempting to gain entry to any part of the school in disregard of procedure or without permission and appropriate supervision.

- 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 or threatening e-mails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff at the school, on Facebook or any other social media sites.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against a parent's own child on school premises.
- Approaching a member of staff about a school matter off the school premises (i.e. in a supermarket) or in inappropriate proximity of other children/adults without making an appointment.
- 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 or other drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises (with the exception of guide dogs) .

## **Inappropriate use of Social Media**

- Parents are expected to act in accordance with the school's Online Safety Policy
- Parents must not attempt to befriend or otherwise contact members of staff or pupils through social media. Where contact has been attempted, this will be reported to the Headteacher.
- Parents must not post content which is damaging to the school or any members of the school community. In the event of defamation, the school will take legal action/contact the police.
- All parents are encouraged to use social media responsibly in order to set a positive example for pupils.
- Cyber bullying of any kind will not be tolerated and will be dealt with as a serious incident.
- Any cases of social media use that breach the guidelines of this guidance will be reported to the Headteacher immediately.
- The Headteacher will report offending individuals using the appropriate 'report abuse' section on the specific social media site, and will arrange a meeting with the individuals concerned to discuss their use of social media.
- The individual will be advised to remove any posts or comments that are harmful, immediately.

## **Managing Inappropriate Conduct**

- In the instance of inappropriate behaviour, the school will follow a number of procedures, depending on the severity of the situation:
- In the first instance, the parent who is creating a nuisance or disturbance will be asked to leave the premises or will be invited into a separate room to calm down.

- If a parent has been previously barred from the premises, or has exceeded their implied access to the premises and is causing a disturbance, the school will contact the police in order for the individual to be removed from the premises.
- The school will also contact the police in the event of any serious violence and assault, and in the event of any actual harm caused to an individual.
- Instances of inappropriate behaviour will be recorded in writing by all members of staff involved using an Incident Reporting Form and will be given to the Headteacher.
- The Headteacher will invite the individual to attend a meeting in which to discuss their inappropriate behaviour and explain that further disturbance may result in the individual being barred from the premises.
- If the disturbance continues after meeting with the Headteacher, or where there is a one-off extreme case of violence, the school has the power to bar the individual from entering the school property for a limited time, subject to review.

We trust that parents and carers will help in implementing this policy and we thank you for your continuing support.

Please contact the school office if you would like to volunteer to be more involved in school life, be it as a parent helper, member of the Parents and Friends Association or School Governor. We value and welcome your contribution, however large or small.