



Benhurst Primary School Policy Statement

'Only my best is good enough for me'



Policy	Code of Conduct for Parents Policy
Implementation Date	September 2015
Review Date	September 2018

At Benhurst, we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, staff 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/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. This is so we can continue to support your children to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Guidance

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School Agreement, we expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring 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 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 behaviour or unsafe behaviour e.g. riding scooters and bikes on school premises, climbing on fences and railings.
- Approach the school 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, the school office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including sporting/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 or threatening e-mails or 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 social media websites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team (this consists of the Head teacher, Deputy Head teacher and Assistant Head teacher's) so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned. Parents may request in advance of any meeting that a school governor is present.
- 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 alleged 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 (including e-cigarettes) and consumption of alcohol (unless a licence has been granted through a school social event) or any illegal or harmful drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises (unless Guide dogs).

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises, the Head teacher or Deputy Head teacher may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult/s from entering the school grounds. Bans will be determined on an individual basis and put in writing to the offending adult/s.

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 Network Site

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Head teachers, school staff and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governors at Benhurst consider the use of 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 Head teacher or the Chair of Governors, 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/ren being educated at Benhurst is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on a social network site, 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 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 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.