



# Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

'Living and Learning in Faith'

## **Parental Behaviour Policy**

At Our Lady's Catholic Primary School we believe strongly in developing positive relationships with our parents and carers. We recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community.

We are very fortunate to have such supportive and friendly parents. 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 and visitors to Our Lady's Catholic Primary School about expected conduct so that we can work together to ensure a safe and positive environment for our children.

### **Respect and concern for others and their rights**

We expect parents and carers to show respect and concern for others by:

- Respecting the caring ethos of Our Lady's Catholic Primary School
- Demonstrating that all members of the school community should be treated with respect by setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the school community including staff, volunteers, other parents and children.
- Maintaining positive lines of communication and working together with staff for the benefit of children.
- Resolving issues of concern or clarifying specific events with staff whilst they are in Our Lady's Catholic Primary School and being mindful that, whilst staff and volunteers wish to maintain a positive relationship, they cannot discuss issues when outside Our Lady's Catholic Primary School.
- Seeking to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correcting own child's behaviour, especially on the school premises where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour
- Avoiding using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour
- Respecting the school environment.
- Following the parking guide lines and not blocking the school gates and being responsible for own children and mindful of others when parking.

### **In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, Our Lady's Catholic Primary 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 office or any other area of the school grounds.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- 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
- the use of rude or aggressive hand gestures, including shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- 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 children/parents /staff, at Our Lady's Catholic Primary School on Facebook or other social media sites. Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- 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 of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property or accessing the school site whilst intoxicated or under the influence of drugs.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises.

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour. Whilst the use of such behaviour is unacceptable in all circumstances, the school is particularly concerned to protect its children from being exposed to such behaviour (whether or not directed at them). 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, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds. We trust that parents and carers will assist Our Lady's Catholic Primary School with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support.

### **Parental/Visitor Access to the School Premises**

Normally parents/carers (and those with parental responsibility), plus visitors, are granted what is known as "limited licence" to visit the grounds and buildings of a school. Where there are serious concerns regarding the conduct of a parent/visitor, and possible staff/student safety, the Headteacher can:

- initiate a meeting/dialogue with the individual
- write to the visitor, describing their misconduct, explaining its impact on the school and stating its unacceptability
- vary the person's "licence", for example, through the addition of conditions
- warn of the possibility of a "ban" (i.e. the withdrawal of their licence) if the misconduct is repeated
- impose a ban with a review after a fixed period
- impose a ban without review

### **Procedure to be Followed**

If a parent/carer/visitor behaves in an unacceptable way towards a member of the school community, the Headteacher and/or appropriate senior staff will seek to resolve the situation through discussion and mediation. If necessary, the school's complaints procedures should be followed by the parent. Where all procedures have been exhausted, and aggression or intimidation continues, or where the circumstances otherwise require it, a parent/carer or visitor may be banned by the Headteacher from the school premises for a period of time, subject to review.

In imposing a ban the following steps will be taken:

1. The parent/carer will be informed, in writing, that s/he is banned from the premises, subject to review, and what will happen if the ban is breached, eg that police involvement or an injunction application may follow
2. Where an assault has led to a ban, a statement indicating that the matter has been reported to the local police
3. The Chair of Governors will be informed of the ban
4. As appropriate, arrangements for meetings at school regarding children, and arrangements for children being dropped off and collected from the school will be clarified.

### **Conclusion**

In implementing this policy, the school will, as appropriate, seek advice from the Local Authority if necessary, to ensure fairness and consistency.

This Policy will be reviewed annually.

**Date: September 2016**