

Tweeddale Primary School

Parental Code of Conduct.

Purpose and Scope

At Tweeddale Primary School, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times in line with our school values

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community, ensuring we can all work together to ensure our school is a safe, happy and welcoming place for us all. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and pupils (through our behaviour policy).

This code of conduct sets out our expectations for parents' behaviour.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

Our Expectations of Parents

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Be clear about their request from school to do to seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct
- Take a measured approach to their child's interpretation of events in school and seek to communicate with staff to find out more as an initial response
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern. If you are unsure who this is, please contact the school office for advice.
- Once children's views have been gathered, adults to problem solve more complex issues away from children
- When necessary, to work respectfully within the school's complaints policy

Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)

- Swearing or using argumentative or offensive language
- Using intimidating physical gestures, including moving into someone's personal response
- Shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been permitted at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs on site (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)

Breaching the code of conduct

In school, we hold staff and pupils to account when they broke their respective codes of conduct. If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent about the incident. The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the Head Teacher

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Invite the parent in to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the Head Teacher
- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the Trust's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site for a set period of time
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- Restricting communication access to a specific member of staff