Parent Behaviour Policy

To be read in conjunction with:
Complaints Policy

Policy Scope

Graduately Developing Futures (GDF) aims to develop close links with parents and the community. It believes that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one. The vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our schools are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. However, on the rare occasions when a negative attitude towards the school is expressed, this can result in aggression, verbal and or physical abuse toward members of the school staff or the wider school community. The Governing Body expects and requires its members of staff to behave professionally in these difficult situations and attempt to defuse the situation where possible, seeking the involvement, as appropriate, of other colleagues. However, all members of staff have the right to work without fear of violence and abuse and the right, in an extreme case, of appropriate self-defence. We expect parents and other visitors to behave in a reasonable way towards members of school staff. This policy outlines the steps that will be taken where behaviour is unacceptable.

Expectations

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos of our school
- Understand that both teachers 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 an 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 and on school grounds
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated:

- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a pupil, member of school staff, fellow parent/carer, Governor or visitor regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence
- Disruptive behaviour that interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an office area, main reception or any other area of the school grounds
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises

www.graduatelydevelopingfutures.co.uk
©2021 GDF
Registered office: 2nd Floor South, One Castle Park, Tower Hill, Bristol, BS2 0JA
Company no: 07150627

- Physical intimidation of a member of staff e.g. standing too close to her/ him, the use of aggressive gestures, threatening behaviour, shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Pushing, hitting, slapping, punching, kicking or spitting
- Swearing or using loud/offensive language or displaying temper
- Racist or sexist comments
- Shouting at members of the school staff, either in person or over the telephone
- Bringing to the school site an animal that is not on a leash, which fouls school premises, or which acts in an aggressive or defensive manner such at the school considers the animal to be a health or safety risk to staff, visitors or pupils
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child
- Breaching the school's security procedures
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any pupils/parent/staff at the school, on Facebook or other social media sites
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whist on school property.

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour.

Actions in the Event of Inappropriate Behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour may result in the Governing Body and the police being informed of the incident. In the event that a parent / carer, or member of the public, behaves in an unacceptable way towards a member of the school community, the Principal or appropriate senior staff will seek to resolve the situation through discussion and mediation. If necessary, the School's Complaints Policy procedures should be followed. Where all procedures have been exhausted, and aggression or intimidation continues, or where there is an extreme act of violence, a parent or carer may be banned by the Principal 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 she /he is banned from the premises, subject to review, and what will happen if the ban is breached, e.g. 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 police, and the Governing Body, will be included.
3. The Chair of Governors will be informed of the ban.
4. Where appropriate, arrangements for pupils being delivered to, and collected from the school gate will be clarified.

A ban from the school premises includes the school car park. If necessary, two members of staff will accompany a child to the main entrance at the end of the day and hand the child over to the

©2021 GDF

parent. Any concerns you have about the school must be made as set out in the school's Complaints Policy, a copy of which is available on the School website or from the School Office.

Summary

Children learn best when there is a positive partnership between home and school. Whilst every effort will be made to work with parents, this will only be possible where parents behave in an acceptable way. Should any of the unacceptable behaviour occur on school premises, the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities. The school may take action where there are serious breaches of health and safety legislation. In implementing this policy, the school will, as appropriate, seek advice from the Board in relation to health and safety and legal requirements, to ensure fairness and consistency.

Review

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis as a minimum. Next review date 01.09.2027

www.graduatelydevelopingfutures.co.uk
©2021 GDF
Registered office: 2nd Floor South, One Castle Park, Tower Hill, Bristol, BS2 0JA
Company no: 07150627