



Parent and Carer Code of Conduct

At St John's Catholic Primary School, we value our strong relationship with parents and carers. Together this helps us achieve the very best for the children in a mutually supportive partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community.

As a partnership, our parents understand the importance of a good working relationship, to equip their children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons, we continually welcome and encourage parents or carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

To truly create the best outcomes for children, requires the relationship between home and school to be based on the principles of care, integrity, trust and mutual respect. The maintenance of this relationship is important to ensure that a child or children are safe and not open to undue distress and anxiety.

Parents, carers and visitors are reminded:

- To respect the caring ethos and values of the school;
- That both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children;
- That approaching school staff for help to resolve an issue is done in an appropriate manner;
- That all members of the school community are treated with respect, using appropriate language and behaviour;
- That the school needs to work with a child, in order to clarify their version of events, to bring about an appropriate solution to an issue;
- To correct their child's actions, especially where it could lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour, both on and off the school premises;
- To use other strategies rather than using 'staff' as threats to admonish their children's behaviour.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school will not tolerate parents, carers or visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere, with any of the school's operations or activities anywhere on the school premises;
- Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises;
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper;
- Threatening, in any way, a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil;
- Damaging or destroying school property;
- Sending abusive or threatening e-mails, Dojos or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications to anyone within the school community;
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of its pupils/ parents/ staff, posted at the school or on Facebook or other social sites (see Appendix 1);
- The use of physical or verbal aggression towards a member of staff, another adult or child;
- 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, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises; (alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events);
- Dogs being brought on to school premises (other than guide dogs).

Should any of these occur, the school may feel it is necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities and/or sadly, consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises.

Appendix 1: Inappropriate use of Social Networking Sites

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff and in some cases, other parents or pupils.

The Department for Education, Plymouth CAST Multi Academy Trust and Governors of St John's Catholic Primary School consider the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable. Any concerns you may have about the school or your child/children must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, where they will be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

The school will consider its legal options to deal with any misuse of social networking and other sites.

Libellous or Defamatory posts

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child at St John's Catholic Primary School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, 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.

Cyber Bullying

We take very seriously the use of cyber bullying 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.