

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

"Loving and Learning Together as Jesus taught us"



St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

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Parents & Carers Code of Conduct

Date of policy review: October 2016

Next review: October 2017

Policy Reviewed & Passed by the Governors

Key Person Responsible: Maureen Kelly

At St Catherine's 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, class teachers 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 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 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 a good example in their own speech and behaviour, especially when talking in front of children.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events along with the school's information 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. We are particularly referring to behaviour on the playground before and after school, in the school front lobby and in the dining room.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Avoid using staff as threats to tell off children's behaviour.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment , we ask parents carers and visitors to consider the following:

- Please let the staff know if there are any changes to usual collection arrangements. If we are unsure, we will ask you to wait whilst we get permission from the parent/carer.
- If you have a concern about a child's behaviour please do not approach that child or their parents. Please tell a member of staff immediately.
- Please do not use behaviour which could interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches.
- Please avoid raising your voice, use inappropriate language or displaying temper and aggression
- Please consider what is appropriate when writing e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication.

- Please do not make comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook, Whatsapp groups or other social sites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school 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.
- Please do not smoke whilst on school property.

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 and Whatsapp groups are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governors of St Catherine's School considers 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 Headteacher 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 in St Catherine's 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.

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.

Policy approved by Catholic Life Committee December 2016