



**Watling**  
**Park School**  
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# Parent Code of Conduct

**Approved by:** Sharma Ruddock  
Chair of Local Advisory  
Board

**Last reviewed on:** September 2021

**Next review due by:** September 2023

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### 1. Purpose and scope

At Watling Park 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, including in times of challenge or upset

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the Staff Code of Conduct) and pupils (through our Behaviour Policy). We also include expectations in our Home School Agreement, which is signed each year.

This Code of Conduct aims to help parents/carers and the school work together effectively by setting guidelines on appropriate 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)

### 2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the vision and values of our school and the Trust
- 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
- 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
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

### 3. 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 offensive language
- Displaying a temper, or 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, especially while on school premises
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- 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 allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)
- Any behaviour that could bring the school's reputation into disrepute

#### **4. Breaching the Code 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.

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

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent in to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the Trust's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or other senior Trust employee including the legal team linked to the Trust regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site

#### **5. Vexatious behavior**

It is not appropriate to make personal accusations or attacks on members of school staff, or to raise matters that are not about education or a pupil's well-being. It is also not appropriate to make unsubstantiated allegations against the school or staff, or to behave unreasonably through the use of social media platforms or by not engaging with the school to attempt to find a joint resolution.

In the instance of unreasonable behavior, (which includes continuing to raise similar issues, making unsubstantiated allegations or statements in social media or other forms of communication with other parents, or raising a range of unrelated issues on a repeated basis) the school reserves the right not to respond and these instances may be seen as vexatious. This may also include instances where a parent makes reference to previous incidents that have been investigated but there was no cause for concern or where a parent/s may use social media or other forms of communication with the wider parent community to make unfounded allegations or accusations.

The school will always aim to 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 Headteacher who will consider all advice sought regarding any issue or incident before making a decision.

The Headteacher will consult the CEO (and, if relevant, the Chair of the Local Advisory Board) before banning a parent from the school site where possible.

I have read, understood and agree to follow this Parent Code of Conduct.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_