
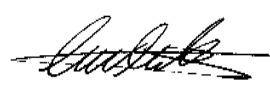


Code of Conduct for the School Community Policy 2024 - 2025



Governor Committee Responsible:	GSG	Staff Lead	Mr. G. Mills
Status	Advisory	Review Cycle	Annual
Last Review	September 2024	Next Review Date	September 2025

Designation	Name	Date	Signature
Chair of Governors	Mr. R Ellis		
Head Teacher	Mr. G. Mills		

At Swindon Village Primary School we are very fortunate to be part of a supportive and friendly community which recognises the importance of an effective home-school partnership.

As partners in their children's education, we continue to welcome and encourage members of the school community to play a full and active part in the life of our school and the purpose of this policy is to remind all visitors of their expected conduct. This is so we can all continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

1. CODE OF CONDUCT

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School Agreement, we expect all visitors, including parents and carers 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 by setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
- Have high expectations of their own child's behaviour and be supportive of the school's rules.
- Approach the school in order to resolve any issues of concern in an amicable manner.
- Avoid using staff members as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

In order to maintain a peaceful and safe school environment for all members of the school community, the school cannot tolerate the following behaviour:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes, or threatens to interfere, with the operation of the school
- The use of loud or offensive language including swearing
- Threats of actual bodily harm against a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Wilful damage to school property
- Abusive or threatening communication including letters, e-mails, texts, voicemails, or phone messages
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of its pupils, parents or staff on Facebook or other social media sites (see Appendix 1)
- Physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against a parent's own child on school premises
- Approaching someone else's child in order to chastise them for their actions 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 and/or the consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property. This includes the use of e-cigarettes/vaping
- Bringing dogs on to school premises (with the exception of guide dogs and school dogs)

2. BREACHES OF THIS CODE

Below is a list of actions which the Head Teacher may choose to take. These are in no particular order and is not meant to be a definitive list:

- Make a record of the incident.
- Talk to the parent(s) or member of the community
- Issue a warning letter about the inappropriateness of the behaviour.
- Inform the Chair of Governors of the incident.
- Where appropriate, take further legal advice and action as deemed necessary in consultation with the Governing Body.

Appendix 1

CYBERBULLYING AND THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Cyberbullying can be very damaging to school life. The definition of Cyberbullying is *'the use of electronic forms of communication such as email and social networking to make comments that may be construed as being abusive, derogatory or offensive towards members of the school community.'*

Cyberbullying may consist of threats, harassment, embarrassment, humiliation, defamation or impersonation. School staff can be targeted as well as pupils, and cyber bullying can adversely affect their wellbeing and the important contribution that they make to their school community. Every individual has a right to be respected at their place of work and bullying of any kind is also a violation of that right.

Social media sites are being increasingly used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Head Teachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governing Body of Swindon Village Primary School considers this use of social media as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community. **The school welcomes constructive feedback but asks that any concerns are made through the appropriate channels (i.e. by speaking to the class teacher, the Head Teacher or Chair of Governors), so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively in the best interests of all concerned.**

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child being educated at Swindon Village 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.