

26 September 2024

Conduct of Parents, Carers and Other Visitors

Dear Parent or Carer,

Most parents, carers and others visiting our Academy are keen to work with us and we are fortunate to have a very supportive parent body. There have, however, been a small number of incidents where parents have approached pupils to deal with matters that are managed within school. During these incidents, the conduct of those parents was not appropriate and led to pupils feeling unsafe. Parents must raise concerns about in-school matters with school staff and must not try to resolve them themselves.

I am therefore taking this opportunity to remind parents of the conduct expected of them when visiting the school site. Parents are required to:

- Respect the Academy values and its caring ethos.
- Act as positive role models by demonstrating respect towards other individuals and the Academy building and setting a good example in both speech and conduct.
- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of the students.
- Seek advice from Academy staff to clarify a child's version of events with the Academy view to help resolve a situation.
- Ensure the behaviour of their child/children is acceptable in all public places and the community.

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

- shouting at pupils, parents or members of staff
- abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- physically intimidating pupils, parents or staff, e.g. standing very close to them
- the use of aggressive hand gestures
- threats of actual bodily harm or physical aggression to staff, governors, visitors, other parents/carers or pupils/students
- harassment
- disruptive behaviour which interferes/threatens to interfere with any activity within the Academy.
- swearing, offensive language, use of profane language, displaying anger/aggression
- pushing or hitting, e.g. slapping, punching, and kicking
- spitting
- smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on Academy premises
- breaching the Academy's security procedures, accessing the premises without permission from relevant staff
- damaging or destroying Academy property
- recording conversations or meetings with staff without permission from the Principal
- any sharing of recordings will breach GDPR regulations, in which case the Academy will seek legal advice.
- Inappropriate dress and/or behaviour on Academy premises

- offensive, derogatory, or defamatory comments regarding the Academy or any of the pupils/parent/staff on Facebook or other social media sites.
- approaching a pupil/parent to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this pupil/parent towards their own child.
- dogs being brought on to premises (guide dogs are an exception)

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour. If any of the above behaviour occurs on the Academy site, we may deem it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the Academy grounds. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the relevant member of staff, so they can be dealt with effectively.

We know that the vast majority of our parents/carers understand the importance of being positive role models and having a good working relationship with the Academy. We thank you for your support with this matter.

Yours sincerely,
Mr C Metcalfe
Principal