

Mawnan CE VA Primary School



Parent and Carers Code of Conduct

Review Cycle	Date of Current Policy	Author(s) of Current Policy	Review Date
3 Year	July 2025	J Pridmore	July 2028

Review & Ratification Required by Governor's Sub-Committee Only	Name of Governor's Sub-Committee	Ratification required by Full Governing Board
Yes/No	CSS Committee	Yes/No

Reviewed by Governor's sub-committee

Role	Name	Signature	Date
------	------	-----------	------

--	--	--	--

Ratified by the Full Governing Board

Role	Name	Signature	Date

Details of Policy Updates

Date	Details

Our Rationale

At Mawnan C of E VA Primary School we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly school community. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves a partnership between parents, staff and the whole school community. As part of that partnership our parents understand the importance of a good working relationship in order to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this document is to provide a polite reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about their expected conduct. This is so we can continue to enable children to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

Our Commitment

We are committed to resolving difficulties in a constructive manner, through an open and positive dialogue. However, we understand that everyday misunderstandings could cause frustrations and have a negative impact on our relationships. Where issues arise or misconceptions take place, please contact your child's teacher or the Headteacher, who will be available to meet with you and go

through the issue and hopefully resolve it. Where issues remain unresolved, please follow the school's complaints procedure. This is available on the school website or a copy can be requested from the school office.

This code aims to clarify expected behaviour and the types of behaviour that will not be tolerated.

The code of conduct also sets out the actions the school can take should this code be ignored or where breaches occur.

Our Guidance

We expect parents and carers to:

- Set a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the school community.
- Respect the Church of England ethos of our school.
- Understand that both school staff 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.
- Listen to both a child's version of events and the school's view in order to help bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct their own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Respect the school environment, including keeping the school tidy.
- Park responsibly at the beginning and end of the day (do not cause dangers or park across the drives of residents).

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate parents and carers exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, office or any other area of the school grounds.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to harm a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.

- Sending abusive or threatening dojos, e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications.
- Defamation of the school or staff character on Facebook or other social networking sites.
- Using physical or verbal aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of their actions towards your own child/ren.
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs.
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises

The Headteacher is expected by the Governing Body of the school to be responsible for the wellbeing of the whole school community, pupils, staff and visitors included. Staff, pupils and other parents and visitors must not be exposed to unacceptable behaviour from any visitor to the school no matter how frustrated or upset they may be. Should any of the above behaviours occur on school premises the Headteacher will take whatever action is necessary to prevent it happening again. This may include restricting access to the school site in some circumstances.

Social Media - 'Think before you post'

We ask that social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, school staff, parents or children.

We take very seriously inappropriate use of social media by a parent to publicly humiliate or criticise another parent, member of staff or child.

Please do not use social media as a medium to air any concerns or grievances. Online activity which we consider inappropriate:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of children
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, governors, children or other parents
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Posting defamatory or libellous comments
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff or children
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children or members of staff
- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language
- Breaching school security procedures

At our school we take our safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents appropriately in line with the actions outlined above.

Safeguarding

It is essential to emphasise that safeguarding children will always take precedence over any other consideration.

In all cases, where a parent's or carer's behaviour or circumstances are considered to pose a risk, whether intentional or unintentional, to the safety, wellbeing, or safeguarding of children and staff, the school will act promptly to protect pupils and staff. Where there is a conflict between safeguarding children and accommodating the needs of adults, safeguarding obligations will take priority.

Breaching the Parent 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 into 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 Local Authority regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site (see below)

The school will always 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.

Banning a Parent from School Grounds

The Headteacher or Acting Heacher has authority to ban a parent from the school site with immediate effect for a short period (up to 48 hours). The governing body and local authority will then be consulted before a longer ban is issued.

Refusal to leave the premises when requested could result in the police being called.

Reasons for Banning a Parent from School Grounds

1. Disruptive Behaviour: If a parent exhibits aggressive, threatening, or disruptive behaviour towards staff, students, or other parents, the school may decide to ban them from the premises.
2. Safety Concerns: If there are concerns about the safety of children or staff due to a parent's actions or behaviour, a ban may be warranted.

Process for Banning a Parent

1. Documentation: The school should document the incidents that led to the decision to ban the parent, including dates, times, and descriptions of the behaviour.
2. Communication: The school should communicate the decision to the parent in writing, outlining the reasons for the ban and any relevant policies. Arrangements from dropping and collecting children should be considered.
3. Review Period: It may be beneficial to set a review period for the ban, allowing for the possibility of reinstatement if the parent's behaviour improves.

The Parent Code of Conduct is an unsigned agreement between the Parents and Carer Mawnan C of E VA Primary School.