



Parent Code of Conduct

At Matthew Arnold Primary School we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support your child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times

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).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents 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)

Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- ✓ Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- ✓ 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

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 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
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)

Social Media

- Parents and carers are expected to refrain from discussing the business of school or children attending school in any public forum, including social media sites.
- The use of social media websites to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools is unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community.
- If a pupil, parent or carer is found to have posted defamatory comments on social networking sites, the school will report them to the website host and the school expects the person who posted the comments to remove the comments immediately

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:

- Invite the parent / carer to a meeting to discuss the incident;
- Confirming in writing to the parent or carer the considered acceptable behaviour by the school and the consequences of repeat behaviour (warning letter);
- Withdraw permission for the parent or carer to enter the school site and/or buildings;
- Inform the police

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.

The headteacher will consult the chair of governors before banning a parent from the school site.