

Bishop Chavasse Primary School

Parental Code of Conduct Policy

Approval Arrangements

All statutory policies in the Trust are ultimately the responsibility of the Trust Board. To enable it to discharge this responsibility appropriately and in collaboration with the constituent schools, the Trust Board will:

1. set a full Trust wide policy,
2. set a 'policy principles' document (a framework within which Headteachers develop a full and appropriately customised policy),
3. or delegate to Headteachers or LGBs the power to develop their own policy.

This is a Level 3 Policy against the Trust Governance Plan.

Review Body:	LGB
Approved:	November 2023
Next review:	November 2026
Review Period:	3 years

This policy was approved by the LGB for implementation on the date above and supersedes any previous policy.

Rationale

It is the aim of Bishop Chavasse Primary School that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated equitably and well. We are a caring, Christian community; our values are built on mutual trust and respect for all and good relationships. The school parent code of conduct policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure, living out our school vision.

School vision

Bishop Chavasse Church of England School Policies are all underpinned by respect and our school parable 'The Wise and the Foolish Builder', which forms the basis of our whole school vision, highlighting the importance of **wisdom**, **compassion** and **honesty**.

Bishop Chavasse School values every wonderfully and uniquely created child and adult; inspiring everyone to **fulfil their potential**, as we **achieve excellence together**. As Jesus teaches through the parable of the house on the rock: we grow in **wisdom**, supported by the **compassion** of God to establish firm, **honest** foundations on which every child can build.

Introduction

We are fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves building and maintaining a positive partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. Our parents/carers recognise the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills to be kind, **compassionate** and curious members of society and help us build a positive and nurturing school which enables all children to fulfil their potential and achieve excellence. For these reasons we welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

Aim

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about expected conduct. This is so we can continue to thrive and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring Christian ethos and values 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 courtesy and respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour;
- Refrain from criticising school, staff or other children and families until all avenues have been explored;
- Correct 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 and follow the school's complaints procedure should concerns continue; and
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

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

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team sports matches;
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper;
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or student regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence;
- Damaging or destroying school property;
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication;
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child;
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child 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 consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property;
- Dogs (except registered assistance dogs) being brought on to school premises;

- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the students/parent/staff, at the school, on Facebook or other social media sites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and, if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds (see Appendix 2). We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Appendix 1: Inappropriate use of Social Media Site(s)

Social media websites are being used increasingly to enable campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/students. The Governors consider the use of social media in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, phase leader, Assistant and Deputy Headteacher or the Headteacher before contacting the Chair of Governors (following the school's complaints procedure), so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned in line with the 'sharing concerns' procedure in our [Complaints policy](#).

In the event that any student or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the school is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social media sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social media 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 these.

The school will also expect that any parent/carer or student removes such comments immediately. In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites.

The school takes the issue of cyber bullying seriously. Were social media to be used by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another via inappropriate social network post(s), we will consider and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare. We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting their children aware of this policy.

Appendix 2: The school's actions in cases of persistent or vexatious complaints or harassment

In the first instance the school will make every effort to hear concerns, to investigate and respond. If, during this process, relationships sour, an attempt will be made to set up a meeting at which the parent can bring a witness and matters can be further explored. This will be minuted.

Should the working relationship deteriorate further e.g. with abuse, aggression or removal of the child from school, school will send a letter and seek another meeting as a matter of course. They will clearly inform the complainant that his/her behaviour is considered to be becoming unreasonable/unacceptable and, if it is not modified, action may be taken in accordance with this policy.

School will outline the specific behaviours which are impacting on resolution and perhaps on the child concerned. If the behaviour is not modified, then the school will take some or all of the

following actions as necessary, having regard to the nature of the complainant's behaviour and the effect of this on the school community:

- a) inform the complainant in writing that his/her behaviour is now considered by the school to be unreasonable/unacceptable;
- b) inform the complainant that all meetings with a member of staff will be conducted with a second person present and that notes of meetings may be taken in the interests of all parties;
- c) inform the complainant that, except in emergencies, all routine communication with the complainant to the school should be by letter only;
- d) (in the case of physical, or verbal aggression) take advice from the Tenax Schools Trust to consider warning the complainant about being banned from the school site; or proceed straight to a temporary ban*;
- e) consider taking advice on pursuing a case under Anti-Harassment legislation;
- f) consider taking advice from the Tenax Schools Trust about putting in place a specific procedure for dealing with complaints from the complainant e.g. the complainant will not be able to deal directly with the Headteacher but only with a third person to be identified by the Local Governing Body of the school, who will investigate, determine whether or not the concern / complaint is reasonable or vexatious and then advise the Headteacher accordingly.

***Persons Causing Nuisance / Disturbance on School Premises Section 547 of the Education Act 1996**

School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on school premises. However, in case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, the school may ban parents from entering the school premises. It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist in removing the person concerned. The school is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.