

Expectations of behaviour for parents and carers

At St. Andrew's School, we continually aspire to work effectively in partnership with parents and carers. Our vision is **'With God's love, we live, learn and grow together'** and this supports our commitment to our school community, ensuring our values of Love, Courage and Friendship are shown in every interaction.

Everything we say or do is a choice; living life in all its fullness is also a choice. We may not always agree, however, we can all disagree well and we can seek to be peaceful problem-solvers, ever open to and appreciative of each other's points of view.

To create such a welcoming and safe learning environment, we have put together in this document - a specifically designed set of expectations and commitments regarding behaviour and conduct, which parents are expected to act in accordance with.

All staff members have the right to work without fear of violence or abuse; therefore, physical attacks, threatening behaviour, and abusive or insulting language towards staff members, governors, visitors, students or other parents may result in individuals being removed from the premises.

This document outlines the manner in which parents are expected to act as well as detailing the type of behaviour that will not be tolerated.

Rationale

At St. Andrew's School, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their 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 document 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 childminders)

Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Set a good example to pupils through your behaviour and the way you interact with staff, pupils and other adults
- 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 and work with staff members to resolve any issues of concern
- Support the school and their child to modify, change or correct their behaviour appropriately

Inappropriate behaviour

The school takes instances of inappropriate behaviour very seriously and will not tolerate any circumstances that may make pupils, staff members and other members of the school community feel threatened. This includes the following:

- Using foul, abusive or offensive language
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Raising voices inappropriately at another individual
- Threatening another member of the school community through aggressive hand gestures or verbally
- Making racist or sexual comments
- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- 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 (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)
- Taking photos or videos on the school premises without permission from the school

Managing inappropriate behaviour

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent is behaving inappropriately, 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 apply any of the following actions:

- Send the parent(s) a copy of the Expectations of Parental Behaviour and Conduct document
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff
- Send a warning letter to the parent
- 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)
- Bar the parent from the school premises

Barring from the school premises

The school has the right to bar a parent from the premises, to keep the school community safe.

If a parent is displaying inappropriate or concerning behaviour, they will be asked to leave the premises.

If a parent persistently or consistently behaves inappropriately on the school site, the school may:

- Contact the police
- Inform the parent that the school intends to bar them and invite them for a meeting to formally present their side
- Inform the governing board/Chair of Governors

A letter will be sent to parents informing them of the following information:

- The reason they are barred from the premises
- That they have the right to formally express their views on the decision to bar, in writing to the Chair of Governors within 10 working days from the date of the bar

Following a review, a bar may be lifted or extended, if there are grounds for continued concern.

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the Behaviour Expectations rests with the Executive Headteacher or Head of School.