

Oaklands Community Primary School

Parents' Code of Conduct & Use of Social Media including use of Photography & Video

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School Agreement, we expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- 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.
- Correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the school directly to help resolve any issues of concern.

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, reception area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social 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, the Head teacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned. Please read the schools complaints procedure available on our website.
- The use of physical 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 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).

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, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

Appendix 1

Use of social networking sites and use of Photography/Video by parents

Although social networking sites may appear to be the quickest and easiest way to express frustrations or concerns about the School (and those associated with it), it is rarely appropriate to do so. Other channels, such as a private and confidential discussion with the School, or using the School's formal complaints process are much better suited to this. The School considers the following examples to be inappropriate uses of social networking sites. (*This list is non-exhaustive and intended to provide examples only*):

- Making allegations about staff or pupils at the School/cyber-bullying;
- Making complaints about the School/staff at the School;
- Making defamatory statements about the School or staff at the School;
- Posting negative/offensive comments about specific pupils/staff at the School;
- Posting racist comments;

- Posting comments which threaten violence.

Procedure the School may follow

The School will always try to deal with concerns raised by parents in a professional and appropriate manner and understands that parents may not always realise when they have used social networking sites inappropriately. Therefore, as a first step, the School will usually discuss the matter with the parent to try and resolve the matter and to ask that the relevant information be removed from the social networking site in question. If the parent refuses to do this and continues to use social networking sites in a manner the School considers inappropriate, the School will consider taking the following action:

- Set out the School's concerns to you in person or in writing, requesting that the material in question is removed;
- Contact the host/provider of the Social Networking site to complain about the content of the site and ask for removal of the information;
- Contact the Police where the School feels it appropriate – for example, if it considers a crime (such as harassment) has been committed; or in cases where the posting has a racial element, is considered to be grossly obscene or is threatening violence

If the inappropriate comments have been made on a school website or online forum, the School may take action to block or restrict that individual's access to that website or forum; Take legal advice and/or legal action where the information posted is defamatory in any way or if the circumstances warrant this;

Parental use of Photography/Video

Photos or videos taken by parents at or of school events of their children is for personal use only. Parents may be in breach of data protection regulations if they publish or share any photos or videos that identify or show any other children. It may also put children under a protection order at risk.

Please also see information regarding e-safety for children on our school website www.oaklandsprimaryschool.co.uk

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

Updated: 14 November 2019

K. Parr