



Parental Behaviour Policy

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

Date Approved by Governing Body:	September 2019
Review Period:	Every three year
Next Review Date:	September 2022

Chair of Governors:	
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UFFCULME SCHOOL PARENTAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

At Uffculme School, we have good relationships with our parents/carers and value the contribution that they play in the life of the school and in their children's education. We provide many opportunities for parents to engage with school life, including parents' evenings and invitations to other events.

We want all parents/carers to be confident that we will do everything we can to keep their children safe in school. As part of our safeguarding procedures the school has put in place this parental behaviour policy to ensure that behaviour from parents/carers does not cause the children and staff in school to feel distressed, threatened or unsafe.

Rationale

We believe that staff, pupils and parents are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to work together. Behaviour that may cause harassment, alarm or distress to users of our premises is contrary to the aims of Uffculme School.

Aims

That all members of the school community communicate within the school environment in a pleasant and courteous manner without causing distress or offence to adults or children.

Expectation

- That adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and wider community.
- That no members of staff, parents or children are the victims of abusive behaviour or open to threats from other adults on the school premises.
- Physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language, verbal or written, to staff, governors, parents and carers, children and other users of the school premises will not be tolerated and will result in the withdrawal of permission to be on school premises.
- Any parent who is asked to leave the school premises will have the right to appeal the decision by writing to the Chair of Governors.

Please note that incidents will be logged.

Guidelines

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated towards any member of the school community:

This is not an exhaustive list, but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour.

- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone;
- Inappropriate posting on social networking sites which could bring the school (or a member of staff) into disrepute or be deemed as bullying;
- Aggressively worded emails to individual members of the community;
- Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone;
- Physically intimidating, e.g. standing very close;
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements;
- Physical threats;
- Shaking or holding a fist towards another person;

- Swearing;
- Pushing;
- Hitting e.g. slapping, punching or kicking;
- Spitting;
- Racist or sexist comments including sexual innuendo.

Persons causing nuisance/disturbance on school premises

School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission by the school to be on site. This permission can be withdrawn and a parent banned from the school premises where there is evidence of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents.

The school is not responsible for organising arrangements for children to be brought into school in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

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 on removing the person concerned.

Abusive phone calls

Calls will be terminated if a parent/carer shouts or is abusive over the telephone. Calls will also be terminated if a parent/carer speaks in an aggressive or intimidating tone over the telephone. The headteacher, with the approval of governors, may consider communicating via email if deemed necessary.

The use of email

The school welcomes the use of email to communicate with parents. However, it needs to be recognised that school staff have the right to restrict any responses to emails to working hours, this should take into consideration staffs teaching commitments. Emails which are aggressively, abusively or inappropriately worded will not be responded to, but will be referred to the appropriate member of the Senior Leadership Team who will take the appropriate action.

Inappropriate use of social networking sites

Social media is being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, headteachers, school staff, and in some cases, other parents/pupils.

The Governing Body of Uffculme School consider the use of social media being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interest of the children or whole school community.

Any concerns that parents/carers have, must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to a member of the senior leadership team, headteacher and lastly the Chair of Governors, so that they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer being educated at Uffculme School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on social media, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the social network site. All social network 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 this. This school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases, the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuses of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, is the issue of cyberbullying and the use of by one child or parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entries. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

Unacceptable behaviour may result in the police being informed.

The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to abuse.

Parents have the right to appeal in writing to the Chair of Governors within ten days of their permission to enter the school premises being withdrawn.

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the headteacher and governor to monitor and annually review this Parental Behaviour Policy.