



INTRODUCTION

We are committed to working together to be a welcoming, caring community where everyone reaches high levels of achievement, feels valued and has confidence in their abilities and acts responsibly towards others. We aim to create a secure and caring environment for staff, parents / carers and pupils.

We are proud of our good reputation and we depend on the entire school community to help maintain and improve our children's learning. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnerships between parents, teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school and children's centre.

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

GUIDANCE

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

- Respect the caring ethos of our school and children's centre
- Understand that both staff and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that **all** members of the school and children's centre community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct their own child's behaviour, especially in public, where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the school and children centre's to help resolve any issues of concern.

- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

In order to support our Christian values and a peaceful and safe school and children's centre environment the school and children's centre cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following behaviour:

- Being disruptive which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, an office area or any other area of the school and children's centre grounds, including team 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 or children's centre staff, Governors, visitors, fellow parents/carers or pupils regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication. Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents or 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, (Key worker, Manager in Children's Centre) the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- 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).
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises, other than support dogs such as guide dogs.

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on school or children's centre premises, the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the school and children's centre premises.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our school and children's centre with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school and children's centre.

Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social Network Site

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, members of staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils.

The Governors of St Stephen's C of E Primary School and Children's Centre considers the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the school community as a whole. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, (Key worker, Manager in Children's Centre) the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in St Stephen's C of E Primary School and Children's Centre is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the 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. The school and Children Centre will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the school and Children Centre will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take 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 children aware of this policy.

Agreement to this policy will form part of the Home school agreement to be signed by all parents.

Agreed by Governors
(Chair Signature): _____

Policy Due for Review: _____