



Winterbourne Junior Girls' School - Parent Code of Conduct



Winterbourne Junior Girls' School – Parent/Visitor Code of Conduct

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Positive Behaviour Policy - which can be accessed on the school website - and the School Site Security policy.

Date Prepared: April 2016

Approved by Governing Body Date: 18th May 2016

Date of Review: April 2017

Date of Review: December 2018

Date of Next Review: December 2019

At Winterbourne Junior Girls' School we are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between home and school and understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents and visitors to our school about expected conduct so that we can work together to ensure a safe and positive school environment for our children.

RESPECT AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS AND THEIR RIGHTS

This guidance supports implementation of the Home-School Agreement. We expect parents and carers to show respect and concern for others by:-

- supporting the respectful ethos of our school by setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the school community;
- working together with teachers and school staff for the benefit of children. This includes approaching the school to resolve any issues of concern and to discuss and clarify specific events in order to bring about a positive solution;
- reinforcing the school's policy on Behaviour;
- respecting the learning environment appropriately (both in school and off site),
- parking with consideration and respect for others when delivering and collecting children from school.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school does not tolerate:-

- disruptive behaviour which interferes with the operation of a classroom, an office area or any other part of the school grounds;
- using loud and/or offensive language or displaying temper;
- threatening harm or the use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them and physical punishment against your own child on school premises. (Some actions may constitute an assault with legal consequences.);

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- damaging or destroying school property;
- abusive, threatening, malicious or inflammatory emails, phone or social network messages
- smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs or accessing the school site whilst intoxicated ;

The above behaviours on school premises will be reported to the appropriate authorities and *Governors* may prohibit an offending adult from entering the school grounds to safeguard our school community.

We trust that parents, carers and visitors will fully support this Code of Conduct.

Appendix 1:

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. Winterbourne Junior Girls' School 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 whole school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the Class Teacher, 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 at Winterbourne Junior Girls 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 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 misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by any member of the school community to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

Appendix 2 DFE advice November 2018

2. Barring individuals from school premises

Trespassing is a civil offence. This means that schools can ask someone to leave and take civil action in the courts if someone trespasses regularly. The school may want to write to regular trespassers to tell them that they are potentially committing an offence.

Schools can bar someone from the premises if they feel that their aggressive, abusive or insulting behaviour or language is a risk to staff or pupils. It's enough for a member of staff or a pupil to feel threatened.

The school should tell an individual that they've been barred or they intend to bar them, in writing. Letters should usually be signed by the headteacher, though in some cases the local authority, academy trust or proprietor may wish to write instead. The individual must be allowed to present their side. A school can either:

- bar them temporarily, until the individual has had the opportunity to formally present their side
- tell them they intend to bar them and invite them to present their side by a set deadline

After the individual's side has been heard, the school can decide whether to continue with barring them. The decision should be reviewed within a reasonable time, decided by the school.

The Department for Education (DfE) does not get involved in individual cases.

3. Removing individuals from school premises

Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a person who is on school premises without legal permission to cause or permit a nuisance or disturbance. Trespassing itself does not constitute a criminal offence.

To have committed a criminal offence, an abusive individual must have been barred from the premises or have exceeded their 'implied licence', then also have caused a nuisance or disturbance.

If a school has reasonable grounds to suspect that someone has committed an offence, then they can be removed from the school by a police officer or a person authorised by the appropriate authority such as the:

- governing board
- local authority
- proprietor of that school