

St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Behaviour Code for Visitors

Our ethos and values

In accordance with the aims of the school, the Governing Body of St Mary's believe that all members of the school community should be esteemed, cared for, treated courteously and encouraged to make their unique contribution. Within our Christian ethos of love, forgiveness and justice for each person as a valued child of God, we aim to develop understanding and respect for each other's faith, culture and language, and to teach, exemplify and uphold equal opportunities for all.

Introduction

St Mary's Church of England Primary School has built up a clear and impressive culture of respect and positive values over many years and this has been recognised during Ofsted and Church School inspections. This Behaviour Code for Visitors is intended to help us further our aim of providing an exemplary education and learning environment for each pupil, based on their needs, in which everyone aims to treat each other with kindness and courtesy.

Purpose

This document provides an explanation of the acceptable standard of behaviour expected from visitors to the school premises and those interacting with its pupils and staff in order make this school a safe place to learn, work and visit.

What you can expect of us, and what we expect of you

The School and its staff will:

- Treat visitors to our school site with respect to which they are entitled;
- Ensure that visitors to our school site are supervised, where necessary;
- Check the identity of contractors, workers and other visitors to our school site, as necessary;
- Act in accordance with our safeguarding policy (see the school's website); and
- Do all that they reasonably can to ensure that our school site is a safe and welcoming learning and working environment.

All visitors to our school, and interacting with our pupils and staff, are expected to behave calmly, politely and respectfully.

This means that visitors must:

- Treat our school population, environment and property with respect;
- Follow our school rules, protocols and any instructions given by school staff;
- Report anything that puts anyone on our site at risk to a member of our staff;
- In the case of parents, accept that they are responsible for their child's behaviour and safety, whilst the child is in their care, even when they are on our school premises.

The type of behaviour that the School considers unacceptable

Our school will decide on a case by case basis whether a visitor's behaviour is unacceptable, but any behaviour that we believe adversely affects our safe and caring learning environment and/or puts the physical or emotional wellbeing of a pupil, member of staff, parent or other visitor at risk, is not acceptable behaviour on our school site.

This behaviour may include, but is not limited to:

- Disruptive behaviour;
- Aggressive or threatening speech or behaviour e.g. by swearing, threatening or shouting at others, taking an aggressive stance, threatening to strike someone or assaulting another person;
- Damaging school property;
- Behaviour that could be considered racist, sexist, homophobic or similarly offensive in some other way;
- Smoking, vaping or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst on our school site;
- Bringing animals on to our school site, other than guide dogs;
- Being in possession of weapons of any kind;
- Refusing to follow the reasonable instructions of school staff.

In addition, unacceptable behaviour also includes any communication with a member of our school's community that is malicious, threatening or abusive, including in person, over the telephone or in writing, e.g. by letter, email or any other electronic format, such as social media, regardless of whether it takes place on the school premises.

In instances where behaviour is deemed to be unacceptable:

-The school will attempt to informally remedy the situation by speaking with the individual concerned. There may be no further action.

-Where there is any dispute over what has occurred, or if the alleged incident is complex or serious, the school will conduct a formal investigation in order to establish the facts and determine what action should be taken, if any.

If the school decides that a visitor's behaviour has been unacceptable the school or, in some cases the Local Authority on the school's behalf, may decide to:

- Informally (i.e. verbally) warn the visitor about their behaviour;
- Formally (i.e. in writing) warn the visitor about their behaviour;
- Ban the visitor from the premises for a specified period; or
- Report the behaviour to the Police.

Visitors will be entitled to make representations to the governing body, in line with the school's complaints procedure, if they disagree with the decision reached by the school.

Questions and concerns about this Code

The school is grateful for the support that it receives from visitors in maintaining its caring and safe learning and working environment, so any feedback that you may have about the content of this Code, is welcomed.

Please direct any feedback or questions about the Code to the school office who will refer your comments on to an appropriate member of staff.