

St Mary's Church of England Primary School
Behaviour Code for Site Users

Our ethos and values

Our school is committed to bringing out the best in each other so that every member of the school community can know 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10). Through learning of the teachings of Jesus, we believe that our children can explore and develop their understanding of Core Christian values as markers and guides for their own lives. We aim for the school's Core Christian values to inform and influence our pupils' moral compass and allow them to enjoy 'life in all its fullness'. These values are known as the 'Sunshine 6'. They are: Forgiveness, Perseverance, Honesty, Compassion, Courage and Respect.

Introduction

St Mary's CofE Primary School has built up a strong culture of mutual respect over many years and this has been recognised during Ofsted and Church School inspections. This behaviour code for visitors is intended to help further the aim of providing an exemplary education and learning environment for each pupil, based on their needs, in which everyone treats each other with respect, kindness and courtesy.

Purpose

This document provides an explanation of the expected behaviour from all users of the school premises and of those interacting with its pupils and staff in order to 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 premises with the respect to which they are entitled;
- ensure that visitors to our school site are supervised well;
- check the identity of contractors, workers and other visitors to our school site;
- act in accordance with our safeguarding policies (see the school's website);
- do all that they reasonably can to ensure that the school site is a safe and welcoming learning environment.

All visitors to our school, and those who interact with our pupils and staff, are expected to behave calmly and respectfully.

This means that visitors must:

- take responsibility for their own actions and choices;
- treat our school population, environment and property with respect;
- follow our school policies, protocols and instructions given by school staff;
- report anything that puts anyone on the school premises at risk;
- in the case of parents, accept responsibility for their child's behaviour and safety while they are on the school premises.

The type of behaviour that the school considers to be unacceptable

- The school will decide on a case by case basis whether a visitor's behaviour is unacceptable.
- Any behaviour that we believe adversely affects our 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.

Unacceptable behaviour may include:

- behaviour which disrupts the usual functions of the school;
- aggressive or threatening speech (e.g. swearing, threatening or shouting at others – either in person or via another medium)
- aggressive or threatening behaviour (e.g. taking an intimidatory stance, threatening to strike or assault 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 or attending an off-site event;
- bringing animals on to the school site (with the exception of guide dogs);
- being in possession of weapons of any kind;
- refusing to follow reasonable requests of school staff;
- using a mobile device to capture images or record the voice of another person without their consent.

This is not an exhaustive list. The school will apply the Department for Education's definition of the minimum risk that aggressive, abusive or insulting behaviour or language poses: 'It's enough for a member of staff or a pupil to feel threatened.'

Unacceptable behaviour includes any communication with a member of staff that is malicious, threatening or abusive. This can be in person, over the telephone or in writing by letter, email or any other electronic format such as social media. This is regardless of whether or not it takes place on the school premises.

In instances where behaviour is deemed to be unacceptable:

- The school will attempt to remedy the situation informally 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 it is decided that a visitor's behaviour has been unacceptable, the school (or the Local Authority) may decide to:

- informally warn the visitor about their behaviour (this would usually be in the form of a conversation);
- issue a written warning to the visitor about their behaviour (this is classed as a formal warning);
- ban the visitor from the school premises for a specified period; or
- report the behaviour to the Police.

Please note this is not a sequential process. The school may judge an incident to require one of the above remedies without recourse to one of those preceding it.

If visitors disagree with the decision reached by the school, then they will be entitled to make representations to the governing body using the school's complaints procedure.

Questions and concerns about this Code

The school is grateful for the support that it receives from visitors in maintaining a 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 and they will refer your comments on to the appropriate member of staff.

Adopted by the Governing Board of St Mary's Church of England Primary School on 28th September 2021