

Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians, and other visitors



Policy Drafted: Spring 2024

Review Date: Spring 2027

Signed: *M. Mansa* (Chair of Governors)

Signed: *Mary Mc Callion* (Principal)

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY/ NURSERY SCHOOL

Just as we have a behaviour policy for pupils, and a code of conduct for our staff, we also ask our parents, guardians and carers to maintain a certain standard of behaviour.

At St Brigid's Primary School, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents and guardians to support their child's learning.
 - Create a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents.
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To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and pupils (through the behaviour policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the schoolwork together with parents, guardians and carers by setting guidelines for appropriate behaviour.

This includes –

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

Our expectations of parents, guardians, and carers

We expect parents, guardians and carers, and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos and values of our school.
 - Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils.
 - Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour.
 - Seek a peaceful solution to all issues.
 - Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct.
 - Speak to a member of staff should they have any issues of concern regarding their own child.
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- Use the following guidelines when communicating on Seesaw or by email.
 - Always keep in mind mutual respect.
 - Do not use the platform to air views/grievances regarding members of staff, child or parent, in the class or school.

Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating, swearing at, or using offensive language towards members of staff and pupils, this includes in person and on the telephone.
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbal or written) towards a member of staff or a child.
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents.
- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and school trips)
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, Seesaw, email or social media

- Posting defamatory, abusive, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms.
 - Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children.
 - Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents the attention of a member of staff.
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Breaching the code of conduct

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Send a warning letter to the parent.
 - Invite the parent into school to meet with senior members of staff and or the principal.
 - Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of extreme and or threatening behaviour)
 - Seek advice from the local Education Authority's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
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- Ban the parent from the school site.

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the principal. The principal will consult the Board of Governors before banning a parent from the school site.

Reporting concerns

The school takes safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents appropriately. If you are concerned about any inappropriate behaviour, please contact the Designated Child Protection Teacher Mr Paul O Doherty or the Deputy Designated Child Protection Teacher Miss Orla Mc Namara.