

Hampton Vale Primary Academy

Parent/Carer Conduct Policy

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1. 1.0 Introduction

1.1 At Hampton Vale Primary Academy, we have high expectations of the behaviour and conduct of our children, staff, volunteers and Governors. This extends to our parent and carer community. This policy is intended to be used in conjunction with the *Home School Agreement* that is signed by all parents/ carers at the point of admission to the Academy.

1.2 In this policy, the word 'parents' also refers to carers, relatives or any other responsible adults who enter the school premises.

2.0 Purpose

2.1 We believe that staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which we work and learn. Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress to any users of the school premises is contrary to the aims of the Academy.

3.0 Code of Conduct

3.1 We value a strong and positive relationship with parents and carers. Together this helps us achieve the very best for our children in a mutually supportive partnership with parents, class teachers and the school community.

3.2 To truly create the best outcomes for children requires the relationship between home and school to be based on the principles of care, integrity, trust and mutual respect.

3.3 As well as following the guidance set out in the Home/ School Agreement parents, carers and visitors are reminded;

- To respect the caring ethos and values of the school
- That both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Approaching school staff for help to resolve an issue is done in an appropriate manner.
- All members of the school community are treated with respect using appropriate language and behaviour.
- Demonstrate that all members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their use of speech, language and behaviour.
- To correct their own child's behaviour especially where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour.

3.4 Examples of unacceptable behaviour include (but not limited to) the following;

- Shouting, either in person or on the telephone
- Inappropriate posting on Social Media
- Speaking in an aggressive / threatening tone/ swearing
- Physically intimidating, eg, standing very close
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/ exaggerated movements
- Physical threats
- Unwanted physical contact
- Racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic comments

- A parent must not approach and shout at children on the playground under any circumstances.
- Bring dogs onto the school premises/ playground.

4.0 Behaviour on Social Media

4.1 Social Media sites are a necessary and important way to communicate with parents/ carers. Hampton Vale Primary Academy has its own Facebook page on which it will share regular updates and photographs regarding pupils' learning, information and timing of trips and purposeful reminders.

4.2 Inappropriate conduct on social media will be taken just as seriously as physical or verbal conduct.

4.3 Social media sites should not be used to name individuals or make abusive or derogatory comments about people. In particular, the names of children or staff should never be used. The Department for Education, Governors and Staff of Hampton Vale Primary Academy consider the use of social media websites being used in this way unacceptable. Any concerns you have about the School or your child/ children must be made through the appropriate channels e.g Class Teacher, Senior Leader, Headteacher, Chair of Governors; where they will be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

5.0 Libellous or Defamatory posts

5.1 In the event that any pupil or parent/ carer of a child/ children at Hampton Vale Primary Academy is found to be posting or sending libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or any other social media network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. A copy of the offending 'post' will be taken and the child/ parent/ carer responsible will be asked to attend a meeting with the appropriate Senior Leader.

6.0 Conduct during School Performances/ Assemblies

6.1 Parents and carers who attend assemblies or performances that are put on by the school are required to abide by the following rules. Failure to meet these expectations may result in being asked to leave or entry to future events may be declined.

6.2 For a variety of reasons we have a number of children who are not able to have their photographs published on social media or in the press. Therefore, we ask parents not to film or take photographs during any performance unless informed otherwise by a member of the Senior Leadership Team at the beginning of each performance.

6.3 Siblings who are not school age are able to attend performances and assemblies, however, due to health and safety, we ask that pushchairs and prams are left outside and clear of any doorways.

6.4 Our students put a lot of hard work and effort into the performances, therefore we ask that you respect this and ensure any siblings in attendance are quiet throughout the performance.

7.0 Parent Engagement Sessions/ Parent Feedback/ Consultation Groups

7.1 At Hampton Vale Primary Academy, we believe that Parental Engagement is extremely important to ensure your child/ren is able to achieve the best outcomes possible. Therefore, events such as Parental Engagement Weeks are vital to assist parents in coming into school to see how best they are able to support their child at home to enhance their learning.

7.2 To ensure the lessons/ groups are not disrupted, mobile phones should be on silent and not used during the session. This includes photographs, filming, text message and phone calls.

7.3 Due to space restrictions, we ask that you respect the one adult per child limit and that no siblings attend these sessions.

7.4 Throughout the Parental Engagement Session and Parents Feedback/ Consultations groups, all adults in attendance should behave in a positive and polite manner and respect the opinions of others.

8.0 Possible follow up actions

8.1 The Academy reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to abuse. This refers to misconduct both offline and online. If parents become abusive at any time on school premises they will be asked to leave.

8.2 Academy premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on the premises. However, in the case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, the Headteacher (or delegated Senior Leader) is within their rights to suspend or ban parents from entering the school and its grounds. This would include being excluded to any events being held at the school.

8.3 It is also an offence under Section 547 of the Education Act 1997 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The Police will be called to assist in these circumstances. The normal Laws on harassment, insulting, racist, sexist, homophobic and transphobic behaviour could also be applied in serious circumstances (including abuse on social media).

8.4 The Academy is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents/ carers will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

9.0 Complaints

9.1 If you have any complaints about the conduct of any other parent/ carer, guidance should be sought from the *Four Cs Multi Academy Trust Complaints Policy and Procedure*. This is available from the Academy website or can be requested from the Personal Assistant to the Headteacher.

10.0 Review and implementation

10.1 Unless otherwise required, this policy will not be reviewed for a period of two years.

10.2 It is the responsibility of **all staff** including the Senior Leadership Team to ensure this policy is fairly implemented in the day to day running of the school.

Thank you in advance for abiding by this policy in our school. Together we create a positive and uplifting environment not only for the children, but also all who work and visit our school.

NOTE: Parents are responsible for sharing this with any persons who undertake school drop off/ pick up duties.