

MAUNDENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY



Reviewed policy:

March 2017

Policy to be reviewed again:

March 2019

Statement of principles

The governing body of Maundene Primary School encourages close links with parents and the community. It believes that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one. The vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our school are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. However, on the rare occasions when a negative attitude towards the school is expressed, this can result in aggression, verbal and or physical abuse towards members of staff or the wider community.

The governing body expects and requires its members of staff to behave professionally in these difficult situations and attempt to defuse the situation where possible, seeking the involvement as appropriate of other colleagues. However, all members of staff have the right to work without fear of violence and abuse, and the right, in an extreme case, of appropriate self-defence.

We expect parents and other visitors to behave in a reasonable way towards members of school staff. This policy outlines the steps that will be taken where behaviour is unacceptable.

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated:

- shouting at members of the school staff, either in person or over the telephone;
- physically intimidating a member of staff, e.g. standing very close to her/him;
- the use of aggressive hand gestures;
- threatening behaviour;
- shaking or holding a fist towards another person;
- swearing;
- pushing;
- hitting, e.g. slapping, punching and kicking;
- spitting;
- breaching the schools's security procedures.
- 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's premises whilst intoxicated.

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour.

Unacceptable behaviour may result in the police being informed of the incident. 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 may be called to assist in removing the person concerned.

Procedures to be followed

If a parent/carer behaves in an unacceptable way towards a member of the school community, the head teacher or appropriate senior staff will seek to resolve the situation through discussion and mediation. If necessary, the school's complaints procedures should be followed. Where all procedures have been exhausted, and aggression or intimidation continue, or where there is an extreme act of violence or behaviour, a parent or carer may be banned by the head teacher from the school premises for a period of time, subject to review.

In imposing a ban the following steps will be taken:

1. The parent/carer will be informed, in writing, that she/he is banned from the premises, subject to review, and what will happen if the ban is breached, e.g. that police involvement or an injunction application may follow
2. Where an assault has led to a ban, a statement indicating that the matter has been reported to the governing body and the police will be included
3. The chair of governors will be informed of the ban
4. Where appropriate, arrangements for pupils being delivered to, and collected from the school gate will be clarified.

AUTOMATIC BAN

There are exceptional circumstances when a parent/carer or visitor will be automatically banned from the premises. These include if:

- a parent/carer or visitor has been prosecuted for harming children;
- a parent/carer or visitor is a registered sex offender (for sexual offences against children).;

Conclusion

In implementing this policy, the school will, as appropriate, seek advice from their health and safety and legal departments, to ensure fairness and consistency.

Signed.....

Name.....

Date.....