



Parent Code of Conduct

STANFORD IN THE VALE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

This Code of Conduct is an unsigned agreement between the Parent, Carer, Visitor and Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School.

At Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School, we are very proud and fortunate to have a dedicated and supportive school community. At our school, the staff, governors, parents and carers all recognise that the education of our children is a partnership between us. We aim for everybody to flourish and reach their potential in a loving community by 'working together to achieve together'.

We recognise the importance of good working relationships in equipping our children with the necessary skills for their education. For these reasons we welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

We expect our school community to respect our school ethos, keep our school tidy and set a good example with their own behaviour, both on school premises and when accompanying classes on school visits. In addition, we also expect our parents, carers and visitors to keep our children safe by adhering to the school's request to park safely outside the school gates during morning and afternoon collections.

We set clear guidelines on appropriate behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and pupils (through our positive behaviour policy). The purpose of this code of conduct is to clarify our expectations for the conduct of all parents, carers and visitors connected to our school.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

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

We are committed to resolving any difficulties in a constructive manner, through an open and positive dialogue. However, we understand that everyday misunderstandings can cause frustrations and have a negative impact on relationships. Where issues arise, please contact your child's teacher or the Headteacher, who will be available to meet with you and go through the issue and hopefully resolve it.

Where issues remain unresolved, please follow the school's complaints procedure. This is available on the school website, or a copy can be requested from the school office.

1. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision 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.
- Approach the appropriate member of school staff to help resolve any concerns, thinking about the appropriateness of children being present during discussions.

2. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sporting competitions)
- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Use of physical punishment against your child
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Smoking, vaping or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)

3. 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 do one or more of the following:

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the Headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the County Council Legal Team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- 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 Headteacher. The Headteacher will consult the Chair of Governors before banning a parent from the school site.

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



It is important for parents and carers to make sure any persons collecting their children are aware of this policy.

4. Use of Social Media - 'Think before you post!'

Most people take part in online activities and social media. It's fun, interesting and keeps us connected. FOSS has a Facebook page which allows parents to receive and respond to messages about school events. We encourage you to positively participate if you wish.

However, we ask that you use common sense when discussing school life online. Social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, school staff, parents or children.

We take very seriously inappropriate use of social media by a parent to publicly humiliate or criticise another parent, member of staff or child.

If parents have any concerns about their child in relation to the school they should:

1. Initially contact the class teacher
2. If the concern remains, they should contact the Headteacher
3. If still unresolved, the school governors through the complaints procedure

They should not use social media as a medium to air any concerns or grievances.

Online activity which we consider inappropriate:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of children
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, governors, children or other parents
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Posting defamatory or libellous comments
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff or children.
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children or members of staff.
- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language
- Breaching school security procedures

At our school we take our safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents in line with the actions outlined above.

Written: November 2023

Next Review: November 2024