



*'Excellence together with Christ at the Centre'*

# Home School Agreement and Parent Code of Conduct

<b>Approved by:</b>	St Anne's and Guardian Angels Primary School Governing Body	<b>Date:</b> September 2024
<b>Last reviewed:</b>	September 2024	
<b>Next review due by:</b>	September 2026	

## **Aims and Purpose**

Educating pupils at St. Anne's and Guardian Angels Primary School, is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school. We also expect pupils to take responsibility for their education and behavior as appropriate to their age and understanding.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

## **Definitions**

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)

## **Home School Agreement**

### **As a school we will:**

1. Demonstrate our faith in the teachings of Jesus Christ within a safe and welcoming environment.
2. Ensure that all children are valued and helped to make the best progress in their spiritual, moral, emotional, cultural and academic development.
3. Deliver a balanced and carefully planned curriculum which meets the needs of all children.
4. Ensure provision of homework tasks that reflect your child's learning needs.
5. Provide regular opportunities to discuss your child's progress throughout the year.
6. Provide an annual report on your child's progress and attainment.
7. Keep you informed about school policies and guidelines regarding your child's health, safety and welfare needs.
8. Treat all adults and children with respect.

### **As parents/carers we will:**

1. Support the Catholic values of the school community.
2. Ensure that my child attends school regularly, does not take holidays during term time, is punctual and notifies the school on the first day of any absence.
3. Ensure that my child is ready to learn and is dressed in the correct school uniform.
4. Support the school's guidelines for behaviour for learning, health, safety and welfare\*.
5. Support my child in all home learning activities.
6. Attend parent meetings and discussions about my child's progress and well being.
7. Encourage my child to be enthusiastic about learning, to enjoy school and to achieve to the best of their ability.
8. Treat all adults and children with respect.

### **As a child I will:**

1. Follow Jesus' example and help others.
2. Follow the school rules, **Ready, Respectful, Safe.**
3. Try my best in work and play.
4. Be honest about my words and actions.

## **Parent Code of Conduct**

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School Agreement, we expect parents, carers and visitors to:

1. Respect the caring ethos of our school
2. Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children
3. Demonstrate that **all** members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
4. Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue
5. Correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour
6. Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern
7. Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour

**In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:**

1. Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches
2. Using loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper
3. Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence
4. Damaging or destroying school property
5. Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
6. Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the school, on Facebook or other social sites (see Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Head teacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
7. The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises
8. Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences.
9. Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property or outside the school gate.
10. Dogs being brought on to school premises (other than guide dogs).

## **Breaching the Parent 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 a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from [our legal team/the local authority's legal team/the trust's 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.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

## Appendix 1

### **Inappropriate use of Social Network Site**

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governors of St. Anne's and Guardian Angels Primary School considers the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at St. Anne's and Guardian Angels Primary School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.