

PARENT, CARERS AND VISITORS CODE OF CONDUCT 2023 - 2024

Purpose and Scope

At Grey Court School, we believe it is important to:

- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for students, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our students at all times

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 national Teachers' Standards) and students (through our Behaviour Policy). This Code of Conduct aims to help the school work together with parents, carers and visitors by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

Our Expectations of Visitors

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 students
- Treat all members of the school community with respect - setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues through Restorative Approaches
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression, unsafe conduct or bringing the school into disrepute
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

Behaviour that will not be Tolerated

- Entering the school site without permission
- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, students or other parents, carers or visitors
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- Disciplining another person's child - please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- 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
- Misusing or hijacking communication channels meant for dialogue between staff and students
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Drinking alcohol on the school premises, including at the school gates (unless moderate alcohol consumption has been allowed at a specific event)
- Smoking on the school premises, including at the school gate
- Use of audio or video recording devices in meetings with school staff
- Parking dangerously or obstructing the school's pedestrian entrance or staff car park entrances/exits
- Riding bicycles or scooters onto the school site without prior written consent
- Use of the school's staff car park without prior consent
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs) or pets

Breaching the Code of Conduct

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent, carer or visitor has breached the Code of Conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the individual about the incident.

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

- Send a warning letter to the parent, carer or visitor
- Invite the parent, carers or visitor to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the Head Teacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour e.g. the Police)
- Seek advice from our legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent, carer or visitor from the school site or limit communications with staff

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the Parent and Carer Code of Conduct rests with the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher will consult the Chair of Governors before banning a parent or carer from the school site.