



Parent, Carer and Family Member (PCFM) Charter

Introduction

At Winnington Park Primary School and Nursery, we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly school community. Our parents and carers recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the wider school community.

As a partnership, our parents and carers 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 you all to participate fully in the life of our school.

Guidance

We recognise the importance of maintaining an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding between the members of our school community: children, staff, parents and carers, governors and visitors to our school.

To do this effectively, we expect parents and carers, and visitors, and all members of our school community to:

- Respect the caring ethos and values of our school
- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of the children.
- 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.
- Through discussion with school, seek to clarify a child's version of events, in order to bring about a satisfactory solution to any issue.
- Support and guide their child, to make positive and considerate behaviour choices, especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour.
- Use agreed school protocols to resolve any issues of concern.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, for all members of the school community, the school cannot tolerate the following:

- 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 sports matches.
- The use of loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to commit actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or student regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the students/parent/staff, at the school on any social media sites.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of the 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/safeguarding consequences).
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even prohibit the individual from entering the school grounds.

Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all parties. We would always wish to seek to resolve an issue at the earliest opportunity and informally where feasible.

We trust and thank you, that as parents, carers and family members, you will assist our school with the upholding of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Social Media

Social media is defined as any interactive media technology that facilitates the creation of sharing of information, ideas, interests, and other forms of expression through virtual communities and networks.

Well known examples include Facebook, Twitter, SnapChat, TikTok, WhatsApp, LinkedIn, and Instagram as well as blog sites, on-line encyclopaedias such as Wikipedia; and video / image sharing websites such as YouTube and Flickr, but this list is not limited or exhaustive.

Social media sites/applications are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/students.

The Governors consider the use of social media/posts being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the 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 student or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the school is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or in any other social media forums, 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 content or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or student 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.

We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

Persons Causing Nuisance / Disturbance on School Premises

Section 547 of the Education Act 1996. School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission by the school to be on school premises. However, in case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, school may ban parents from entering school.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 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. School is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

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Please complete and return to your child's class teacher

We, the Parents/Carers/Family Members of

Child's name _____

Year group _____

Teacher _____

Agree to abide by the Winnington Park Primary School and Nursery Parent, Carer and Family Member (PCFM) Charter

Signed _____

Relationship to child _____

Signed _____

Relationship to child _____

Signed _____

Relationship to child _____

Signed _____

Relationship to child _____

Signed _____

Relationship to child _____

Date _____

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