Parent / Carer Code of Conduct

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This policy will be monitored and evaluated by FGB

The Downland Federation is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of its students and young people
Contents

1. Purpose and scope
2. Our expectations of parents and carers
3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated
4. Breaching the code of conduct
1. Purpose and scope

Within the Downland Federation of schools we believe it is important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child’s learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils 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 pupils (through our behaviour policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

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)

2. 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
- Communicate with school staff in an appropriate and polite manner, as outlined at events such as Rising Year Seven Information Evening, such as by emailing or calling the school office
- Be aware that school staff have many other work responsibilities and will respond to communication from parents and carers within two working days
3. **Behaviour that will not be tolerated**

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- 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 while on school premises
- 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)
- Arriving in school without first making an appointment

4. **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:

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a Senior Leader, Director of Primaries or the Executive Headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from our legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libelous or slanderous)
- Revoke the licence of the parent to enter 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 Executive Headteacher.

The Executive Headteacher will consult the Chair of Governors before banning a parent from the school site.