



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School.
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Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers and Visitors

This Code of Conduct is an unsigned agreement between the parent/ carer/ visitor and Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and operates alongside our Home-School Agreement.

This Code of Conduct is aligned to advice from the Department of Education (*Advice on school security: Access to, and barring of individuals from, school premises For local authorities, school leaders and school staff, Department of Education 2012*).

Purpose and scope

At Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, we value our strong relationship with parents and carers. We recognise that education is a process that requires partnership and a good relationship between home and school to support children's learning and development. For these reasons we continually welcome and encourage parents or carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

To truly create the best outcomes for all of our children, the relationship between home and school needs to be based upon principles of care, integrity, trust and mutual respect. The maintenance of this relationship is important to us to ensure that our children, parents and staff are not open to undue distress or anxiety.

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

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to show respect and concern for others by:

- Supporting the respectful ethos and values of our school
- Working together with teachers and other staff members in the best interests of our pupils.
- Approaching school staff to help resolve an issue in an appropriate manner.
- Enabling the school to work with children in order to clarify events or resolve an issue so that we all arrive at an appropriate solution.
- Treating all members of the school community with respect – using appropriate language and behaviour.
- Reinforcing the school's policy in behaviour, particularly when pupils are in public where poor behaviour could make children unsafe.
- Parking with consideration and respect for pupil safety when delivering and collecting pupils from school

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school does not tolerate:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's operation or activities anywhere on school premises or at school events.
- Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Threatening, in any way, a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive or threatening emails, text or voicemails or other written communications to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents or staff at the school on Facebook, WhatsApp or any other social site (See Appendix 1)
- Any aggressive behaviour (physically, verbally or in writing) towards another adult or child, including your own child(ren).
- Approaching someone else's child in order to speak to them about their behaviour or chastise them.
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- Smoking 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)

Should any of the above occur the school may feel it is necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities and/or sadly consider banning the offending adult from entering school premises.

Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social media is being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, parents and pupils.

The Department of Education and Governors of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School considers the use of social media being used in this way as unacceptable. Any concerns you may have about the school or your child/children must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher in the first instance, then the Headteacher and then following the school's complaint policy that is available on the website. All concerns will be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

Anyone found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on social media will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. Publishing libellous comments could result in legal action, or being reported to relevant authorities where this is deemed necessary.

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 that breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately

We take very seriously the use of cyber bullying by a child or a parent to publically humiliate another person by inappropriate social network entries. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. The school will also consider the legal options to deal with any such misuse on social networking and other sites.

Online activity which we consider inappropriate:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of children
- Posting personal, defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Bringing the school in disrepute
- Using social media as a medium to air any concerns or grievances. Using social media to publicly challenge school policies and activities or discuss issues about individual children or members of staff
- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language
- Messages circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff or children
- Breaching school security procedures

