



## Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

*Article 19 – Ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.*

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### Equality Statement

Under the Equality Act 2010, we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations. We believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at **Heaton Park Primary School**.

At **Heaton Park Primary School**, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents/carers 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/carers by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents/carers' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school: **We are kind and respectful.**
- 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 and forms of communication (including verbal and written)



- 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
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Prevent disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- Avoid gathering in large groups which may appear intimidating to others
- Avoid making any contact, in all instances, towards other adults where this would breach the school's code of conduct for acceptable behaviour
- To treat school equipment with respect and return it to school when required
- To supervise your children on school premises, as once they have been handed over they are your responsibility.
- To pick your children up promptly at the designated times (Late Payment Policy applies in school) .

We will not tolerate:

- Swearing, or using offensive language to others
- 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 or within WhatsApp groups.
- 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 (including vaping) or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event) or picking children up from school when intoxicated.
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises without prearranged permission (other than guide dogs).
- Children using the equipment after the school day.
- Being on bikes or E-Scooters on school premises
- Being on your phone inside the school building

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent/carer has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent/carer about the incident, where appropriate.



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

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent in to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the Headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the Local Authority Legal Team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site
- Failure to comply with the ban may result in a fixed period ban becoming indefinite.

The ban can be for **a fixed period of time or indefinitely**, depending upon the nature of the incident(s). The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. If a parent is banned from the school site, the school will send a letter detailing the reasons for the ban and whether or not the ban is for a fixed period of time or indefinitely. The school will share this policy with them and inform them that they have the opportunity to present their side within the letter they are issued. The school will also offer support to achieve the directions of the ban, e.g. collecting children from the school gates, this will be contained within the letter.

Following a fixed-period ban, the parent must make an appointment to meet with the Headteacher for a re-integration meeting before they will be permitted back on site, detailed within the letter they are issued.

If/After the individual's side has been heard, the school can decide whether to continue with banning them. The decision will be reviewed within a reasonable time, decided by the school.

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 and legal advice will be taken.

**Reviewed:** September 2024 (*will be reviewed annually*)

**Signed:**

Mr P Lord (Headteacher)

**Date of next planned GB ratification: September 2025**