



Edgbarrow School Conduct Policy for Parents, Carers and Visitors



and how to raise a concern

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| Trustees Approved Date: | 20 th October 2020 |
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| Date of Next Review: | 19 th October 2022 Two Years |
| Statutory/Non-Statutory: | Non Statutory |
| Public/Internal: | Public |
| Applies to: | The Corvus Learning Trust as a whole and to all schools in the Trust |
| Date Adopted by Local Governing Body: | 10 th February 2021 |

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| Policy Statement: | This is a Corvus Learning Trust policy that will be adopted by all Local Governing Bodies within the Trust |
| Purpose: | To provide schools with guidance on the conduct expected from parents / carers and visitors |
| Responsibility for Approval: | Board of Trustees |
| Responsibility for Updating: | Board of Trustees |
| Related Policies/Guidance: | N/A |

Conduct Policy for Parents, Carers and Visitors and How to Raise a Concern

1. Rationale

The relationship between parents/carers/visitors and this school is greatly valued; partnership working is seen as enhancing the education of pupils in the school. The school believes staff, parents/carers and pupils are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to work, learn or visit. Behaviour that may cause harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is contrary to the aims of the school.

2. The Aims of this Policy

- That all members of the school community treat each other with dignity and respect
- That all members of the school community are able to work, study or visit without fear of verbal or physical abuse or assault. Abusive comments in a letter, email or shared on social media will also not be tolerated
- That all members of the school community are fully aware of the consequences of threatening or intimidating behaviour

3. Expectations

- That adults set a good example to pupils at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community
- That any concerns parents/carers/visitors have about a decision that has been made in school are brought to the attention of school staff in a calm and reasonable manner and at a time that is conducive to the smooth running of the school (e.g. not when staff are supervising pupils)
- That parents/carers allow reasonable time for school to thoroughly investigate any issues that have come to our attention
- That parents/carers do not approach another pupil about something which has happened in school. If welcomed by another pupil's parent/carer, there may be occasions where a polite discussion with them may be appropriate (e.g. for a minor incident). This must never be aggressive or confrontational
- That no members of staff, parents/carers or pupils become the victims of abusive behaviour or receive threats from other adults on the school premises. Abusive comments in a letter, email or shared on social media will also not be tolerated
- Physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language, verbal or written, to staff, Governors, parents and carers, pupils and other users of the school premises will not be tolerated and may result in withdrawal of permission to be on school premises, reports to the authorities and/or legal action
- Any parent/carer/visitor who is denied permission to be on the school premises will have the right to appeal the decision by writing in the first instance to the Chair of Governors

4. Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher and Governors to monitor and review this policy.

Guidelines

School Office contact details for information:

Telephone: (01344) 772658

Email: secretary@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

Raising a concern to school staff

If parents/carers have a concern about their child (home or school related) then the school would always encourage you to bring that concern to us as soon as possible. In the first instance, please ask for an appointment to speak to the form tutor. Parents/carers should telephone, email or visit the School Office to make an appointment – the School Office or form tutor will always try to get back to you as soon as they can (see 'Raising a concern or needing a longer discussion flowchart' below).

If the concern is related to a safeguarding issue, the child's Head of Year should be contacted in the first instance or the schools Safeguarding Team.

Email: SafeguardingTeam@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

Staff always appreciate parents/carers giving us sufficient time to investigate an issue that they have highlighted, as they may have to speak to several pupils/staff.

The school's expectation is that any issues can be resolved in a calm and reasonable manner and the school will not tolerate unsuitable behaviour towards any member of the school community. Examples of unsuitable behaviour include:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any area of the school grounds
- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone
- Aggressive, abusive or otherwise inappropriate posting on social networking sites
- Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone
- Physical intimidation, e.g. standing abnormally close
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements
- Physical threats
- Shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Swearing
- Pushing
- Hitting, e.g. slapping, punching or kicking
- Spitting
- Comments that are intended to insult someone in relation to their age, gender, ethnicity, religion, disability or sexual orientation

This is not an exhaustive list but provides illustrations of behaviour that is considered unsuitable.

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Please note all incidents will be logged with the Chair of Governors. Unacceptable behaviour will result in a letter being sent to the person(s) involved and may result in the police being informed. The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are protected and not subjected to abuse. School premises are private property and parents/carers are normally granted permission by the school to be on school premises. In cases of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents/carers however, the school may ban parents/carers from entering the school premises.

Edgbarrow School welcomes visitors.

The School will act to ensure it remains a safe place for pupils, staff and all other members of our community.

If you have concerns, staff will always listen to them and seek to address them.

Please be aware, however, that abusive threatening or violent behaviour will not be tolerated in this school. Visitors behaving in this way are likely to be removed from the premises and prosecuted.

Raising a concern or needing a longer discussion

If parents/carers have a concern about their child (home or school related) then the school always encourages you to bring that concern to us as soon as possible.

In the first instance, contact the School Office to request an appointment with the form tutor
Please provide as much detail as possible so that the teacher can prepare any information you may need in advance.

The form tutor or the School Office will contact you to arrange an appointment date and time. If the concern can be discussed over the phone, then this is also an option.

If actions are needed these may be discussed or agreed during the meeting or as soon as possible if further investigation or discussion is required.
The form tutor will discuss the concern with relevant parties (Head of Year /Senior Leader/ Deputy Head/ Head Teacher) if necessary.

If for any reason you feel the concern has not been resolved in the first instance, or requires further action please contact staff in the following order:

Head of Year
↓
Senior Leadership Teacher line manager for year group
↓
Head Teacher