



## Parent Code of Conduct

<b>Policy Date</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> November 2023</b>
<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Governing Body on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b>
<b>Next review date:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> November 2026</b>
<b>Person/s responsible:</b>	<b>Head teacher</b>

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

We expect our school community to respect our school values, respect our school environment and to set a good example of their own behaviour, both on school premises and at any events that take place at alternative venues.

In addition, we also expect our parents, carers and visitors to keep our children safe by adhering to the school's request to park safely outside the school gates during morning and afternoon drop-offs and to respect the local residents and their right to leave/enter their property when parking cars.

As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of having a good working relationship to ensure that children are equipped with the necessary skills for adult life. For these reasons, we welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of the school.

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about our expectations for conduct within our community. This is so that the school community can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual respect, calmness and understanding.

## Guidance

At Danegrove Primary School we expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos of our school.
- Support the school in creating a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff, parents and visitors.
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times.
- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that all members of the school community should be treated with respect, and therefore set a good example in their own speech, communication and behaviour; whether that be face to face, on the phone, via emails or on social media.
- **'Think before you post'**, Social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, school staff, parents or children.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct their own child's behaviour when on the school premises, where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.
- Avoid use of mobile phones when on the school site – e.g., when collecting or dropping off children, when talking to staff, at shows & concerts, at meetings or parent consultations.
- Collect children on time at the end of the school day or from clubs and after school care. If parents are unavoidably delayed we would expect a phone call to keep us informed.
- Ensure that the school knows if a child is going to be collected by somebody else, including informing the school of the relationship of that person to the child – grandparent, another parent, family friend etc.
- Take responsibility for the behaviour of other siblings who do not attend Danegrove Primary School.

- Show respect for school procedures and follow instructions at assemblies, performances, sports days, school trips and events that may take place outside of the school grounds. e.g not talking through concerts, turning mobiles off, not filming on phones during performances, not putting photos/video on social media, not verbally abusing staff (both Danegrove staff or staff from other schools/organisations) that are refereeing sporting events. These instructions are given in the best interests of the children and are for reasons of safeguarding, and health and safety.
- Refrain from putting images of Danegrove Primary School children (other than their own if they wish) online or on any form of social media.

**In order to support our caring, safe and respectful school environment the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:**

- Verbal aggression (including shouting) or abusive language towards any member of staff or governor.
- Verbal aggression (including shouting) or abusive language towards any parent, another adult or child.
- Using loud and/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language, being disrespectful or displaying temper or aggression.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Any acts of physical aggression towards a member of school staff, or governor.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemails/phone messages or other written communication.
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies/decisions or discuss issues about individual children or members of staff.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school, its staff or any member of the school community on social media platforms.
- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, work area, the playground or any other area of the school grounds, including the gates/entrances to the school.
- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of events outside of the school, such as sporting events or performances that take place at alternative venues.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards your child. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child, and may have legal consequences.)
- Smoking or vaping and the consumption of alcohol (alcohol may be consumed at authorised events) or other illegal drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought onto school premises (other than guide dogs).

*Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, Head of Year, Assistant or Deputy Head teachers, the Head teacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.*

Should **any** of the above occur on school premises or in connection with Danegrove Primary School, the school may feel it is necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities or consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises or attending any outside sporting/performance events.

## 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.

In the event of any parent/carer or visitor of the school breaking this code then proportionate actions will be taken as follows:

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher.
- In cases where the unacceptable behaviour is considered serious and potentially a criminal matter, the concerns will in the first instance be referred to the Police. This will include:
  - any or all cases of threats or violence and actual violence to any child, staff or governor in the school.
  - anything that could be seen as a sign of harassment of any member of the school community, such as any form of insulting social media post or any form of cyber bullying.
- In cases where evidence suggests that behaviour would be tantamount to libel or slander, then the school will refer the matter to the Local Authority Legal Team for further advice/action.
- Ban the parent/carer from attending sporting events/performances.
- Ban the parent/carer from the school site. Site bans will normally be limited in the first instance, however, where inappropriate behaviour continues, the ban could be made permanent.

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 headteacher.

Please note that the headteacher will consult the chair of governors before banning a parent from the school site.

It is important for parents and carers to make sure any persons collecting their children are aware of this policy.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.