



# Prior Weston Primary School and Children's Centre Parent/Carer Conduct in School Policy

<b>Parent/Carer Conduct in School Policy</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Acting Head Teacher</b>	Jo Pettifor	13 March 18
<b>Governing Body</b>	Full Governing Board	13 March 18
<b>Next review date</b>	Spring Term 2020	

## **Aims**

We recognise that educating our children is a process that requires a full partnership between home and school and we understand the importance of a good working relationship with parents and carers, and any member of a child's immediate network who might attend site to support, celebrate and work with Prior Weston Staff. Therefore we welcome, encourage and expect parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to clarify our expectations for the conduct of parents, carers and any adult who a parent deems trusted to engage in attending the School in order to ensure a safe and positive environment for our children.

For the purpose of this policy we will refer to parents and carers, but this includes any adult who attends the school on behalf of a parent/carer.

## **Parent/Carer Code of Conduct**

We expect parents and carers to show respect and concern for everyone in our community by:

- Setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the School community;
- Working together with teachers for the benefit of all children: this includes approaching the school to discuss and resolve any issues of concern in an appropriate manner, for example using the complaints policy;
- Appropriately reprimanding their own children for inappropriate behaviour which could otherwise lead to conflict, aggression or upset; and
- Respecting the School environment and property.

Our staff cannot tolerate parents, carers or visitors:

- Displaying disruptive, abusive or aggressive behaviour, including using loud and/or offensive language or displaying temper;
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss, chastise them or physically punish them;
- Wilfully damaging or destroying school property;
- Sending emails, making phone calls or posting social media messages that are abusive or threatening; or
- Smoking, consuming alcohol or misusing any substance on school property or accessing the School site whilst intoxicated.



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Inappropriate conduct on the school premises (including but not limited to the examples listed above) will be reported to the appropriate authorities. If there is any concern that inappropriate behaviour is compromising the safety or well-being of any child this will be reported to our Headteacher who may decide to seek advice and support from Early Help or Children's Social Care.

## **Potential sanctions for unacceptable conduct**

We are proud that our school is open and welcoming to all who would like to support our children. We also expect our parents and other adults to help the school community in a variety of ways. However, our overriding priority is providing a safe learning environment for our children and a safe working environment for our staff.

The school expects its staff to behave professionally in these situations and attempt to diffuse the situation where possible, seeking the involvement as appropriate of other colleagues. However, all staff have the right to work without fear of violence and abuse and the right in extreme cases, of appropriate self-defence.

The Headteacher and Governors have the right to ban an offending adult from entering the school's grounds in order to safeguard our school community. Each situation will be considered individually and leaders will seek to ensure that the visitor involved has the opportunity to present their side of events.

A ban can be for a limited period of time and reviewed or it can be permanent. This is a decision taken at the Headteacher's discretion and is based on the details of an incident being drawn together to inform as fair a decision as possible.

Wherever possible, a warning will be given to a parent/carer who might be demonstrating inappropriate behaviour. If a ban is issued this would typically be for a time limited period and then subject to review. However if aggression or intimidation continue, or where there have been serious acts of aggression, a parent, carer or other adult may be banned permanently by the Headteacher.

The following steps will be taken when a site ban has been decided upon:

1. The adult will be warned, in writing, that s/he is banned from the premises, subject to review by a specified date. The suggested duration of a site ban is one half term.
2. S/he will be advised that s/he has a right to appeal the ban by writing to the Chair of Governors within 10 school days setting out the reason(s) for appeal.
3. Where an assault has led to a ban, a statement indicating that the matter has been reported to the police will be included.
4. Where appropriate, arrangements for pupils being delivered to and collected from the School gate will be clarified.
5. The Chair of Governors will be informed of the ban.
6. The School will keep a log of relevant incidents as evidence.



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7. The ban will be reviewed at the end of the relevant period and may be extended if the Academy has grounds for continued concern regarding the relevant adult's conduct.
8. The relevant adult will be informed of the outcome of the review and advised whether the site ban is to be lifted or extended. There will be a right of appeal against a decision to extend the site ban, which can be exercised by writing to the Chair of Governors within 15 school days setting out the reason(s) for appeal.

It is an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including parents/carers) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist the school in removing a parent but local authorities and governing bodies may also authorise the removal of a person if they have reasonable cause to believe that the person is causing a nuisance or disturbance.

### **Conclusion**

Pupils learn best when there is a positive partnership between home and School, and whilst every effort is made to work with parents and carers this will only be possible within a context of mutual respect.