

St Helen Auckland Community Primary School



Parent Code of Conduct

Purpose and scope

At St Helen Auckland Community Primary School, we believe it's important to:

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

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

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

Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the aim, ethos and vision of our school
- 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 language and behaviour
- 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
- Contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss any concerns

Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Swearing, or using offensive language (in person or via telephone)
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents

- Threatening any member of the school community
- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including sporting events, parents' consultations, school performances and fayres)
- Sending abusive messages to any 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
- 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 or drinking alcohol on the school premises
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)

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 and speak to the parent about the incident.

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 the Senior Leadership Team
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from Durham County Council's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site

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.

The headteacher will consult the chair of governors before banning a parent from the school site.