



Acceptable Conduct Policy for parents/carers/visitors

Person responsible: Head teacher
Ratified by the governing body: Summer 2023
Date for review: Summer 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Marie Renshaw', is positioned below the text.

Reverend Anne Marie Renshaw
Chair of Governors

Rationale

At Messing Primary School we believe strongly in developing positive relationships with our parents and carers. We recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the whole school community.

We are very fortunate to have such supportive and friendly parents.

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

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents and visitors to Messing Primary School about expected conduct so that we can continue to work together to ensure a safe and positive environment for our children.

Aims

That all members of the school community treat each other with respect

Expectation

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, Messing Primary School cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:-

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, the office or any other area of the school grounds. Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, or using profane language to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- The use of rude or aggressive hand gestures, including shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the children/parents /staff, at Messing Primary School on Facebook or other social media sites. Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child.
- Smoking or vaping and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property or accessing the school site whilst intoxicated or under the influence of drugs.

This is not an exhaustive list, but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour. Whilst the use of such behaviour is unacceptable in all circumstances, the school is particularly concerned to protect its children from being exposed to such behaviour (whether or not directed at them).

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds. We trust that parents and carers will support Messing Primary School with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support.

Parental/Visitor Access to the School Premises

Normally parents/carers (and those with parental responsibility), plus visitors, are granted what is known as “limited licence” to visit the grounds and buildings of a school. Where there are serious concerns regarding the conduct of a parent/visitor, and possible staff/student safety, the Headteacher can:

- initiate a meeting/dialogue with the individual
- write to the visitor, describing their misconduct, explaining its impact on the school and stating its unacceptability
- vary the person’s “licence”, for example, through the addition of conditions
- warn of the possibility of a “ban” (i.e. the withdrawal of their licence) if the misconduct is repeated
- impose a ban with a review after a fixed period
- impose a ban without review

Procedure to be followed

If a parent/carer/visitor behaves in an unacceptable way towards a member of the school community, the Headteacher and/or appropriate senior staff will seek to resolve the situation through discussion and mediation. If necessary, the school’s complaints procedures should be followed by the parent. Where all procedures have been exhausted, and aggression or intimidation continue, or where the circumstances otherwise require it, a parent/carer or visitor may be banned by the Headteacher from the school premises for a period of time, subject to review.

In imposing a ban the following steps will be taken:

1. The parent/carer will be informed, in writing, that s/he is banned from the premises, subject to review, and what will happen if the ban is breached, eg that police involvement or an injunction application may follow
2. Where an assault has led to a ban, a statement indicating that the matter has been reported to the local police
3. The Chair of Governors will be informed of the ban
4. As appropriate, arrangements for meetings at school regarding children, and arrangements for children being dropped off and collected from the school will be clarified.

Conclusion

In implementing this policy, the school will, as appropriate, seek advice from New Hall Multi Academy Trust/the Local authority if necessary to ensure fairness and consistency.

We are a welcoming village school community with approachable staff and governors and well behaved children. We recognise that we are fortunate to have a very supportive, positive and friendly body of parents/carers. Thank you.