



# PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

## V1



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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose and Scope:

At St. Edmund's CofE Primary School, we recognise the critical role parents play in supporting their children's learning journey. Our commitment extends beyond the classroom, fostering a collaborative partnership with families. Drawing from the EEF guidance report, we emphasise the following principles:

1. **Effective Parental Engagement:** We encourage active involvement from parents, recognising that levels of parental engagement correlate with improved academic outcomes. Research suggests that effective parental engagement can lead to learning gains of up to +3 months over a year<sup>1</sup>.
2. **Inclusivity:** We strive to involve all parents. Our goal is to create an inclusive environment where every family feels valued and empowered.
3. **Evidence-Informed Approach:** Our recommendations align with evidence-based practices. By working together, we can enhance children's learning experiences both at home and in school.
4. **Holistic Support:** Beyond academics, we promote holistic well-being. Our 'Sixcess Values', guide our interactions, emphasising character development alongside academic achievement.

Our commitment to these values extends to parents, staff, and pupils alike. As parents, you play a vital role in supporting your child's learning journey. Therefore, we ask that you:

- ✳ **Create a Safe and Inclusive Environment:** Uphold respectful and considerate behaviour within our school community.
- ✳ **Model Appropriate Conduct:** Demonstrate our 'Sixcess Values' in your interactions with others.

By adhering to this code of conduct, we collectively contribute to a thriving and supportive school environment. For further guidance, we also consider the EEF's 'Working with Parents' report to ensure effective collaboration between home and school (<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/guidance-reports/supporting-parents>)

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)

### 1.3 Legislation & Guidance:

- \* Education Endowment Foundation 'Working with Parents to support children's learning'.
- \* Education Act 1996

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## 2. Our expectations of parents and carers

At St. Edmund's CofE Primary School, we appreciate the vital role parents, carers, and visitors play in our school community. We expect everyone to uphold our shared values and contribute positively to our environment. Please adhere to the following expectations:

### 1. Respect Our Ethos, Vision, and Values:

- Understand and embrace our school's ethos, vision, and the 'Sixcess Values'—respect, responsibility, compassion, perseverance, justice and forgiveness, truth and trust.

### 2. Collaborate with Staff for Pupils' Best Interests:

- Work in partnership with our dedicated staff to support your child's learning journey.
- Prioritise the well-being and educational progress of all pupils.

### 3. Model Respectful Behaviour:

- Treat every member of our school community with kindness, courtesy, and consideration.
- Set a positive example through your speech and conduct.

### 4. Seek Peaceful Resolutions:



- Approach conflicts or concerns with a constructive mindset.
- Strive for peaceful solutions that benefit everyone.

## 5. Guide Children's Behaviour Responsibly:

- Correct your own child's behaviour, especially in public settings.
- Prevent conflict, aggression, or unsafe conduct by addressing issues promptly.

## 6. Engage with the Right Staff Member:

- If you have concerns or need assistance, approach the appropriate school staff member.
- We are here to help and resolve any issues you may encounter.

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## 3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- \* Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- \* Swearing, or using offensive language
- \* Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- \* Threatening another member of the school community
- \* Sending abusive messages to another 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
- \* Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- \* 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)





## 4. Breaching the Code of Conduct:

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent/carer has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent/carer about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- \* Send a warning letter to the parent
- \* Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- \* Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- \* Seek advice from the local authority'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.



## 5. 'Sixcess' Christian Value Links

Our vision is rooted in the belief that every child can succeed and flourish, regardless of their starting point. We aspire to create a nurturing environment that reflects our core Christian values, which we affectionately call the 'Sixcess Values':

### 5.1 Respect:

We treat each other with kindness, empathy, and consideration.

### 5.2 Responsibility:

We take ownership of our actions and contribute to the well-being of our school community.

### 5.3 Compassion:

We show understanding and support to one another, fostering a caring atmosphere.

### 5.4 Perseverance:

We encourage resilience, determination, and a growth mindset in both parents and pupils.

### 5.5 Justice and Forgiveness:

We seek fairness, forgiveness, and reconciliation, promoting harmony.

### 5.6 Truth and Trust:

We value honesty, transparency, and trustworthiness in all interactions.



## 6. Concluding Notes

### 6.1 Linked Policies:

- \* Complaints Procedure
- \* Staff Code of Conduct
- \* Governor Code of Conduct
- \* Behaviour Policy





## 7. Appendices

### 6.1 Model Letters (Initial warning)

Dear [parent name],

I've received a report about your conduct on [time and date].

[Summary of incident, including location, and the effect on staff, pupils and other parents.]

If the incident is minor, add:

This behaviour is not in keeping with our parent code of conduct. [Please find a copy attached to this letter.]

If the incident is more serious, add:

As written in our parent code of conduct, we do not tolerate this kind of behaviour in our school. [Please find a copy attached to this letter.]

We believe that all staff, pupils and parents are entitled to a safe, respectful and inclusive environment, and that parents are as responsible for creating this environment as school staff.

Continue with:

Further breaches of the code of conduct may result in a ban from the school premises.

If you want to invite the parent in for a meeting, add:

I'd like to invite you in to school to discuss this incident, and how we can work together to prevent similar issues in the future.

Please contact the school office on [phone number] to book an appointment.

# St. Edmund's CofE Primary & Nursery School



Yours sincerely,

Headteacher



## 6.2 Model Letter (Banning a parent from site).

Dear [parent name],

I am writing to inform you that, after consultation with the chair of governors, I am banning you from the school site until [date].

(You can also choose to ban a parent permanently. In that case, amend the sentence above)

Despite previous correspondence and conversations about your conduct, there have been further breaches of our parent code of conduct.

[Include details of the incidents, including dates, locations and effects on staff/pupils/other parents for every relevant incident.]

If you do not comply with the ban, I will arrange for you to be removed from the grounds and you may be prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996.

If you would like to raise a complaint, you can do so using the school's complaints procedures, which are available on our website.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher