



# South Haringay School

## Parent/Carer Conduct in School Policy

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**Member of staff responsible: Ian Scotchbrook**

**Date to be reviewed: Spring term 2019**

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### **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. 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 visitors to the School in order to ensure a safe and positive environment for our children.

### **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;
- Respecting the School environment and property; and
- Observing the parking rules and not endangering their own children or others when delivering and collecting children from School.

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 on school property;
- Consuming alcohol (unless there is a licensed event organised and/or sanctioned by the school) or accessing the School site whilst intoxicated

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 Child Protection Officer who may decide to seek advice and support from Social Services.

#### **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.

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.

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 grounds in order to safeguard our School community. Before implementing a site ban they will seek to resolve the situation through discussion, mediation, or use of the formal complaints process. Where all procedures have been exhausted and aggression or intimidation continue, or where there have been serious acts of aggression, a parent, carer or other adult will be banned by the Headteacher from the school premises for a period of time, subject to review.



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 students 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.
7. The ban will be reviewed at the end of the relevant period and may be extended if the School 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 10 school days setting out the reason(s) for appeal.

## **Conclusion**

Students 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. Where a parent or carer's behaviour is seriously and persistently unacceptable or serious it will not be possible to continue working with him/her and, as a final resort, legal action may be taken.