

Bedlington Partnership of Schools – Parent code of conduct

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School Agreement, we ask that you take note of the following:

- Please treat all staff with dignity and respect.
- Understand that teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Please approach the school to help resolve any areas of concern.
- Violence towards members of staff will not be tolerated.
- We do not expect staff to be subjected to any form of verbal abuse, threatened or assaulted in any way.
- Abusive or threatening emails or phone messages will not be tolerated.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school on Facebook or other social sites will not be tolerated (see Appendix 1).

We also expect parents to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner while on the school site and do not expect that our staff, pupils or other parents are exposed to:

- Loud offensive language, swearing (including racist and homophobic language) and displays of temper
- Verbal or physical abuse or threats
- Smoking
- Inappropriate behaviour from other children who are in your care

Any of these behaviours could result in the offender being asked to leave the premises or the involvement of the Police.

APPENDIX 1

Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governors of the Bedlington Partnership of Schools considers using social media websites in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community.

Any concerns you may have 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.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child being educated in the Bedlington Partnerships of Schools is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site. Our schools also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the schools will also consider their legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by a child or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.