



Parent and Visitor Code of Conduct

At The Southwater Junior Academy we are very fortunate to have supportive parents. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between home and school and 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 to participate fully in the life of our academy. The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parent and visitors to our academy about expected conduct so that we can work together to ensure a safe and positive academy environment for our children.

Respect and concern for others and their rights

We expect parents and visitors to show respect and concern for others by:-

- supporting the respectful ethos of our school 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 children. This includes approaching the school to resolve any issues of concern and to discuss and clarify specific events in order to bring about a positive solution;
- reinforcing the school's policy on Behaviour;
- respecting the learning environment appropriately (both in school and off site);
- parking with consideration and respect for others when delivering and collecting children from school.

In order to support a calm and safe school environment The Southwater Junior Academy does not tolerate:-

- disruptive behaviour which interferes with the operation of a classroom, an office area or any other part of the school grounds;
- using loud and/or offensive language or displaying temper;
- threatening harm or the use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them and physical punishment against your own child on school premises. (Some actions may constitute an assault with legal consequences.);
- damaging or destroying school property;
- abusive, threatening, malicious or inflammatory emails, phone or social network messages;
- smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs or accessing the school site whilst intoxicated.

The above behaviours on school premises will be reported to the appropriate authorities and Trustees may prohibit an offending adult from entering the school grounds to safeguard our school community.

Note: an exception applies to permit the purchase and consumption of alcohol on school premises during formal, organised school events (eg Fireworks, Summer Fair, Other PTFA fundraisers). On these occasions, an alcohol License is applied for and granted by the council. It is not permitted to bring alcohol into these events (unless by prior agreement), it must be purchased through an approved vendor, who is located on the school site.

Social Media

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 Southwater Junior Academy School considers the use of social media websites being used 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 Trustees, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent of a child/ren being educated at The Southwater Junior Academy 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 and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The academy will also expect that any parent or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the academy will also consider its 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 any member of the academy community to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

We trust that parents and visitors will fully support this Code of Conduct.

Policy written May 2015

Policy for review May 2020