

Families and Visitors Code of Conduct

INTRODUCTION

Bevington Primary School is committed to providing outstanding educational opportunities for all our pupils.

We recognise the crucial role that families play in supporting children to learn and achieve. As such, we are committed to maintaining positive working relationships with all parents and carers. We ask that families return this commitment and work positively with the school, so that our pupils can maximise the benefit of their education.

The purpose of this policy is to clearly state our expectations regarding family and visitor conduct and explain any measures that may be taken should any issue arise. As stated in our Behaviour for Learning Policy, Bevington recognises the importance of a whole school approach to behaviour management. We believe that modelling good conduct is an essential part of promoting equality, diversity and tolerance within our community, as well as setting a good example to our pupils. The school also operates a Staff Code of Conduct which clearly sets out expectations for staff and relevant measures that may be taken in the event of a breach. All policies are available to view on request.

RESPECT AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS

At Bevington, we believe that children are entitled to learn in a respectful and positive atmosphere, and as such we expect all members of our community, including parents/carers and visitors, to uphold these values. In particular, we ask parents/carers to show respect and concern for others by:

- Setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the school community;
- Working together with Bevington staff for the benefit of pupils and students. This includes approaching your child's teacher to discuss any issues of concern and to work towards a positive solution;
- Understanding and upholding the school's Behaviour for Learning Policy;
- Respecting the learning environment (both in school and offsite);
- Where relevant, parking with consideration and respect for others when transporting pupils to or from school.

In order to support a peaceful and safe learning environment, Bevington does not tolerate the following from visitors to our site:

- Disruptive or unreasonable behaviour which interferes with the operation of a classroom, an office area or any other part of the school grounds;
- Abusive language, including swearing, hate speech and derogatory remarks;
- Abusive or threatening behaviour, whether directed at a pupil, another parent/carer or a member of staff;
- Abusive, threatening, malicious/vexatious or inflammatory communications, whether by telephone, email or via social media;
- Consumption of alcohol or other illegal drugs on site or being on school grounds whilst intoxicated.

The above behaviours will be reported to the Head and Chair of Governors, and appropriate measures will be taken. Measures may include restrictions/exclusion and/or contacting the police/legal action if necessary.

In line with local authority guidelines Bevington operates a Smoke Free Policy and we ask parents, carers and visitors to respect this. Dogs (other than assistance dogs) are not permitted on site.

AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR

Aggressive behaviour is always, at the very least, the criminal offence of common law assault and as such will not be tolerated on school premises.

Types of behaviour that are considered unacceptable may include:

- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone;
- Inappropriate language or malicious written communications, including email
- Unreasonably persistent or intimidating written/verbal communications
- Physical intimidation e.g. invading someone's space;
- Use of threatening gestures;
- Swearing;
- Aggressive physical contact e.g. pushing, hitting, kicking;
- Verbal abuse including racist, sexist and homophobic remarks, sexually abusive or intimidating comments, and derogatory remarks that contravene Equality and Diversity guidelines e.g. disablist/faith-based abuse.

This is an illustrative rather than an exhaustive list.

Bevington takes a zero tolerance approach to aggressive or abusive behaviour, whether directed at staff, pupils/students or other members of our community.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media can provide a useful platform for parents and carers to share information relating to school life. When used constructively and for the benefit of all it can be a real benefit to all stakeholders and is one of the many forms of communication we have available.

To this end we ask all parents and carers to be respectful in their communications via social media. In the event that any parent/carer or pupil/student is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments about Bevington or a member of Bevington staff on social media sites, they will be reported via the site's 'report abuse' channels and consideration will be given to any further action that may need to be taken, including legal action. Bevington will also request and expect the person concerned to remove such comments immediately.

It is also important to bear in mind that cyber bullying is a serious issue and that posting abusive remarks and conducting hate campaigns on social media can fall into this category. Where the school is aware of acts of hate speech or hate crime they will always challenge this by legal means.

The school communicates with parents and families through:

- School comms
- Fortnightly bulletins
- Email
- Twitter
- The website
- The internal screen

In addition appointments can be made upon request with staff as appropriate. Using all these channels productive discussion and strong relations can be developed and maintained for the benefit of all the children.