

# The British School

Working together for our children's future



## School Community Code of Conduct

This policy has been endorsed by NAHT, NASUWT, NEU, Govas, Unison, GMB

At The British School, we believe that every member of our community is entitled to a safe, supportive and protective environment in which to learn and work. This includes our children, staff, parents, carers and all visitors to the school. We are committed to ensuring that our school remains a warm, welcoming and nurturing place for everyone.

We expect all members of our community to treat one another with respect and to be treated respectfully in return. To help us work and grow together in a positive way, we use restorative approaches as the foundation of our practice. Any behaviour - whether spoken, written, or shared via social media - that causes or may cause harassment, alarm, or distress to others will not be tolerated and appropriate action will be taken.

The purpose of this policy is to remind all members of our community of the conduct we expect, so that we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of trust, respect, and mutual understanding.

**We expect all members of our school community to:**

- Respect the ethos and values of our school.
- Understand that teachers and parents/carers must work together in the best interests of children.
- Model respectful speech and behaviour.

- Treat all members of the school community with courtesy.
- Support children to behave appropriately.
- Avoid using staff members as a means to discipline or threaten children.
- Set a positive example for children, by demonstrating respectful interactions with all members of the school community.
- Follow our school complaints procedure to report concerns.

Disrespectful, abusive or insulting language (spoken, written or shared on social media), physical aggression or threatening behaviour towards children, staff, parents, carers or visitors **will not be tolerated** and may result in a ban from school premises and/or police involvement.

#### **Access to school grounds:**

School premises are private property and the school retains the right to decide who may access the site. Members of the public do not have an automatic right of entry to school premises. All visitors must seek permission and arrange access in advance.

Parents and carers are allowed access to school grounds because of their relationship with the school; however, this permission can be withdrawn at any time, if their actions or behaviour justify such a response. Under **Section 576 of the Education Act 1976**, the term "parent" includes a child's natural parents, any individual with parental responsibility and anyone who is caring for the child.

If an individual displays or engages in behaviour that is concerning, threatening, or abusive towards children, staff, parents, carers, or visitors, the school may take steps to prohibit that person from entering the school grounds or buildings.

It is an offence under **Section 547 of the Education Act 1996** for any person - including parents - to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. This includes trespassing, public order offences, or causing criminal damage. Under **Section 547**, school staff may report such incidents to the police and request their assistance.

If a parent or carer is banned from school premises due to their behaviour, it remains their responsibility to make alternative arrangements in order to ensure their child(ren) can attend school.

### **Parking on site:**

It is not permitted for parents/carers to park in the school car park **at any time of the school day, other than to drop a child off at breakfast club.** This poses a serious safeguarding risk. The gates to the school car park must remain closed at all times.

### **Unacceptable behaviour:**

To maintain a peaceful, respectful and safe school environment, the school will not tolerate parents, carers or visitors engaging in any of the following behaviours:

- Disruptive behaviour that interferes with, or threatens to interfere with, the operation of any area of the school grounds.
- Using offensive language, or displaying anger or temper.
- Acting in any manner considered to be physically intimidating.
- Using physical aggression towards another member of the school community.
- Threatening actual bodily harm to any member of our school community, regardless of whether the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Using offensive, aggressive or inappropriate language in emails, texts, social media posts or any other written communication.
- Making defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or its pupils on any social media platform.
- Approaching someone else's child to discuss or challenge them about their behaviour - such actions may be considered an assault and may have legal consequences.
- Parking in the school car park at any time, other than to drop a child at breakfast club.
- Smoking or consuming alcohol or drugs while on school property.
- Bringing dogs onto school premises.

In addition, any behaviour that constitutes bullying or harassment against any individual based on one or more of the *nine protected characteristics* outlined in the **Equality Act** will not be tolerated. These characteristics are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

**School response to inappropriate behaviour:**

The school reserves the right to take any necessary action to protect members of the school community from abuse. Such actions may include issuing a formal warning letter, contacting the relevant authorities, or - in serious cases - banning the individual from entering school grounds. The school may also seek advice or support from the police or Local Authority at any time.

**Raising concerns:**

Any concerns about the school should be raised following our school complaints procedure. Using the correct process ensures that concerns are managed fairly, appropriately and effectively for everyone involved.

We appreciate the support of parents and carers in helping us to maintain a positive, safe and respectful school community.

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