



Westnewton Pre-school

Parent Code of Conduct

Introduction

We are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly committee. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, teachers and the Pre-school community. As a partnership, our parents/carers will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our Pre-school.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our Pre-school about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos and values of our school
- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that **all** members of the Pre-school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the Pre-school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the Pre-school to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

In order to support a peaceful and safe Pre-school environment the Pre-school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:



Westnewton Pre-school

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of the nurse's office and Pre-reception classrooms, the employee's office area, or any other area of the Pre-school.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of Pre-school staff, Committee member, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying Pre-school property.
- Abusive, threatening, demanding, bullying, e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the Pre-school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the Pre-school on Facebook or other social sites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the Pre-school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the teachers, manager or the Chair of the Committee, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences).
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on Pre-school property.
- Dogs being brought on to Pre-school premises without permission.

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on Pre-school's premises the Pre-school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the Pre-school grounds.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our Pre-school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the Pre-school.

Contacting

Any emails or text messages will only be answered within the operating hours of the Pre-school.

Appendix 1: Inappropriate use of Social Network Site

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against Pre-schools, manager, school staff, and in some cases other parents/students. The Committee 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 Pre-school community. Any concerns you may have must be made



Westnewton Pre-school

through the appropriate channels by speaking to the teachers, manager or the Chair of the Committee, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any student or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the Pre-school 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 Pre-school will also expect that any parent/carer or student removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the Pre-school will also consider legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites.

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

Persons Causing Nuisance / Disturbance on School Premises

Section 547 of the Education Act 1996

School premises are private property and parents have been granted permission from the school to be on school premises. However, in case of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, school may ban parents from entering school.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist in removing the person concerned.

School is not responsible for organising arrangements for children in the above circumstances. Parents will need to provide alternative arrangements for bringing children into school.

Mrs D. Scott (Chair)