



Blackboys C.E. School
School Lane
Blackboys
Uckfield
East Sussex
TN22 5LL

ADOPTED September 2025

REVIEW September 2026

Family Code of Conduct Policy

In our Church of England School, we take strength in collaboration yet celebrate uniqueness. As a school we may be small, but we encourage children to be the best they can be, so they are ready to make their mark on the world. We welcome the child yet embrace the whole family. We celebrate our rural environment yet aspire to look beyond our boundaries. We strive for knowledge and gratefully accept opportunities that come our way to enable us to live life in all its fullness. We all take a pride in our School as we follow in Jesus' example.

Introduction

We are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our families recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between families, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our families 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 families to participate fully in the life of our school.

Our school vision is:

Be the Best You Can Be;
Living 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

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We expect interactions between the school, families and the community to reflect this vision.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all families and visitors to our 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 families and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos and values of our school
- Understand that both teachers and families need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that **all** members of the 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 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 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 school environment the school cannot tolerate families and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or child regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the children/parent/staff at the school on Facebook or other social sites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, headteacher or the chair of governors, 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 school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises, or when the school/classes are attending off site visits, including church, the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

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

Appendix 1: Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

Social media, including WhatsApp groups, are increasingly being used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/carers/children. The governors consider the use of social media 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 governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any child or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the school is found to be posting libelous or defamatory comments on social network sites such as Facebook/Instagram/X, 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 school will also expect that any parent/carer or child removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the school 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 one child or a parent/carer 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 families 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, parents may be banned 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.