



Stony Dean School
Working to Inspire

Parent & Carers Conduct Policy

Stony Dean School

Approved by	Head Teacher
Last Reviewed	01/09/2024
Next review	01/09/2026



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Introduction

We are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers, all school staff and the 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 school.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers 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 parents, carers and visitors to:

- Understand that both teachers and parents 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. Family members are positive role models for children within the school community
- 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
- Harassment, bullying or disrespectful behaviour towards staff and other family members will not be tolerated

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate parents, carers 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, at staff members, pupils, family members or contractors



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- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or student 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/social media or other written or verbal communication
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the students/parent/staff, at the school or on Facebook or other social media sites or group chats. (See Appendix 1).
- Any aggressive behaviour towards pupils on school site
- 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. Or suspected that your under the influence of these substances

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities.

In the first instance, a warning will be issued from the headteacher. If the behaviour continues, the governing body will be informed and this may result in a warning from the governing body. If this behaviour continues further, then the parent in question may be banned from the school site.

We trust that parents and carers 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 Site

Nationally, social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases, other parents/students. The Governors 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 Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.



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In the event that any student or parent/carer of a child/children being educated in the 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 content or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or student 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 to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

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

Appendix 2: Model letters

Dear parent

I have received a report about your conduct on (enter date and time).

[Add summary of the incident and of its effect on staff, students, other parents.]

We believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to work.

Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is contrary to the values and ethos of our school. I must inform you that the School and Governors will not tolerate conduct of this nature on its premises and will act to defend its staff and students.

I am therefore informing you that should the school staff have any further concerns about your behaviour formal procedures will be followed.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

Dear parent

I have received a report about your conduct on (enter date and time).

[Add summary of the incident and of its effect on staff, students, other parents.]

We believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to work.

Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is contrary to the values and ethos of our school. I must inform you that the School and Governors will not tolerate conduct of this nature on its premises and will act to defend its staff and students.



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The Headteacher has already contacted you on _____. On the advice of the Headteacher I am therefore informing you that should the school staff have any further concerns about your behaviour you will be asked not to enter the premises and you could be prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996. If convicted under this section, you are liable to a fine of up to £500.

Yours sincerely

Chair of Governors

Dear [parent]

I have received a report from the Headteacher about your conduct on (enter date and time).

[Add summary of the incident and of its effect on staff, students, other parents.]

I must inform you that the School and Governors will not tolerate conduct of this nature on its premises and will act to defend its staff and students. On the advice of the Head teacher I am therefore instructing that (for a temporary period) you are not to reappear on the premises of the School. If you do not comply with this instruction I shall arrange for you to be removed from the premises and prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996. If convicted under this section, you are liable to a fine of up to £500.

The withdrawal of permission for you to enter the school premises takes effect straightaway. However, I still need to decide whether it is appropriate to confirm this decision. Before I do so, I wish to give you an opportunity to give me in writing any comments or observations of your own in relation to the report which I have received from the Headteacher. These comments may include any expressions of regret on your part and any assurances you are prepared to give about your future good conduct. To enable me to take a decision on this matter at an early point, you are asked to send me any written comments you wish to make by (state date ten working days from the date of letter). If on receipt of your comments I consider that my decision should be confirmed, you will be supplied with details of how to pursue a review of the circumstances of your case.

Yours sincerely

Chair of Governors