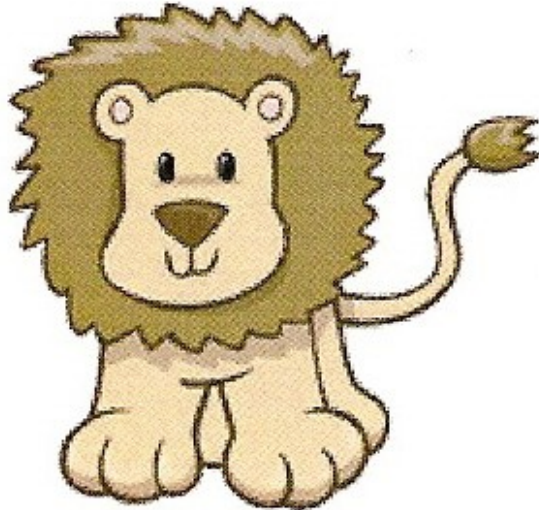


St. Mark's Catholic Primary School



Parent Code of Conduct 2021

"Proudly & Joyfully, we Love, Live & Learn as God's Children."

St. Mark's Catholic Primary School Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

At St. Mark's, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children and adults in our school, and we have the same expectation of our staff and volunteers.

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

This policy reflects the ethos of the school. We are a caring community with a strong Catholic ethos and believe that rewarding good behaviour and providing encouragement promotes a climate of consideration for others and encourages positive behaviour rather than merely deterring unacceptable or anti-social behaviour.

Our mission statement is clear: *'Proudly & Joyfully we Love, Live & Learn as God's children'*; our policy is centred on the Gospel values and teachings.

St. Mark's is an effective school that has built up a solid and impressive culture of respect and positive values over many years. Staff take great care to provide an exemplary education for each pupil, based on their needs; and the pupils overwhelmingly treat each other with kindness and courtesy. They are a full credit to their parents/carers.

The purpose of this document is to ensure that **everyone** who comes on to the school site follows the example set by the pupils and conducts themselves in an appropriate way:

Aims

- To ensure that every member of the school community feels valued and respected.
- To support the way in which all members of this school community can live and work together in an environment that is happy, safe and secure and where effective learning can take place.
- To promote teaching and learning through the building of good relationships based on mutual respect and consideration for others.
- To help children grow in a safe, happy and secure environment and become positive, responsible and independent members of the community.
- To reward good behaviour and provide encouragement and stimulation to all pupils.
- To treat all children and adults fairly by applying this policy in a consistent way.
- To ensure that children and adults are aware of the School Rules and the Code of Conduct.
- To involve all children in their own classroom rules/code of conduct.
- To teach, through the school curriculum, values and attitudes as well as knowledge and skills, in order to promote responsible behaviour, self-discipline and respect for self, others and the world around us.

1. What is expected of people who come on to our school site?

We expect everyone that comes on to the school site to:

- follow the School's safeguarding procedures, ensure that pupils are protected from harm and **immediately** report anything that they believe is putting children at risk;
- understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children;
- observe school rules, protocol and follow the direction given by school staff at all times;
- respect the caring ethos of our school
- treat the school environment and property with respect;
- 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;
- take responsibility for their 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.

2. What happens when there is unacceptable behaviour and conduct?

Please note that inappropriate, disruptive or threatening behaviour towards the school that takes place off the school site might also be considered unacceptable. Anything that the School reasonably believes adversely affects its safe and caring learning environment and/or puts their own or others' physical or emotional wellbeing at risk is considered unacceptable.

This includes inappropriate messaging in all forms as well as defamatory, abusive and or insulting comments made about the school, its pupils, parents and staff on social media. These may be reported to the appropriate bodies, including legal teams and the police. The school takes all forms of cyber bullying seriously and any incidents are dealt with and recorded as a serious incident.

Please be aware of the **appropriate way to express your concerns** (see school complaints procedure) and understand that social media is never a helpful vehicle.

School premises are private property and people who come on the site will generally have the permission of the school to do so.

In circumstances where the School believes that an individual's conduct has fallen short of the expectations referred to above and is unacceptable, then it has the power in common law to ban that individual from the premises.

In **all** cases the facts will be established before responding to the unacceptable conduct.

In **most** cases the School will seek the advice of the Local Authority before responding to the unacceptable conduct.

In **most** cases the School will attempt to remedy the situation by initiating a meeting/dialogue with the individual concerned to raise its concerns and gain reassurance that the conduct will not be repeated.

In **some** cases, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors will write to the individual concerned to make it clear that their conduct is unacceptable and warn them that further action will be taken if it is repeated, which may result in the individual being barred from the school premises. The individual concerned is entitled to make representations to the School's Governing Board about the letter and the warning given.

In **some** (extreme) cases the School, or the Local Authority acting on behalf of the School, will write to the individual concerned informing them that as a result of their unacceptable conduct they have been barred from the school premises for a temporary period that is specified in the letter and is subject to review. This means that individual has no lawful authority to be on the school premises during the period in question and will be removed if they attempt to do so. Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a person who is on school premises without lawful authority to cause or permit a nuisance or disturbance. In such circumstances it is likely that the barring will be with immediate effect however the individual concerned will be given the opportunity to respond before it is confirmed. The individual concerned is also entitled to make representations to the School's Governing Board over the decision to bar them and the reasons given.

The school will not tolerate:

- disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of the school;
- any aggressive or threatening behaviour or that which leads to actual bodily harm;
- damaging or destroying school property;
- abusive or threatening e-mails, texts, phone messages or other verbal and written communication;
- the use of physical or verbal aggression towards adults or children;
- an approach to someone else's child in order to discuss the actions of that child towards their own child or to chastise them for those actions;
- any behaviour that discriminates on the basis of age, race, sex, gender reassignment, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity;
- smoking/vaping or drugs whilst on the school site;
- the consumption of alcohol during the school day on school site;
- bringing animals on to the school site, other than guide dogs

Staff welcome the opportunity to discuss concerns in a professional manner, it is not acceptable for staff to be questioned about their professionalism or judgement in an aggressive manner.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Marie Naughton (Chair of Governors)
On behalf of the Full Governing Board**