



Policy Name: Parent Code of Conduct

General Statement

All school policies are available for parents and prospective parents by contacting St Crispin's School Office on 0116 2707648 or by emailing: enquiries@stcrispins.co.uk

These policies are adapted to cover the whole school from 2-16 and therefore this policy applies to the whole school, including the EYFS. It should be read by parents/staff alongside all the school policies, the School Welcome Pack and the Admission Form and for staff additional information can be found in the St. Crispin's Staff Handbook and their Terms and Conditions of Employment.

St Crispin's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is our aim that all pupils fulfil their potential.

The parents of the children attending St Crispin's School should be aware that the school has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are their pupils. This responsibility necessitates a Safeguarding Policy and School may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child's welfare.

Policy statement: St Crispin's School

We would like to bring to your attention our Code of Conduct for parents and carers. This policy works in conjunction with our other school policies to enable the smooth communication for both our pupils and parents and sets out how parents and schools should work together. By enrolling children at St. Crispin's School, parents and carers agree to adhere to the expectations set out below. St. Crispin's School is committed to working in respectful and positive partnership with our families. Our Codes of Conduct aim to clarify the types of behaviour that are considered acceptable for all members of our school community.

Implementation

At St. Crispin's School we are very proud and fortunate to have a very dedicated and supportive school community. At our school the Parent body, staff, governors, parents and carers alike all recognise that the education of our children is a partnership process between all these parties. As a partnership we are all aware of the importance of good working relationships and all recognise the importance of solid working relationships to equip all of our children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we will continue to welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expectations around the conduct of all parents and visitors connected to our school.

We understand that everyday frustrations can cause misunderstandings and have a negative impact on our relationships. We understand that a commitment to resolving difficulties in a constructive manner through open positive dialogue is essential.

In this way we can continue to flourish and progress to achieve, in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. This code is aimed at the wider school community so that all can see and understand

the expectations on the behaviour of all visitors or those connected with the school. The policy aims to clarify the types of behaviour that will not be tolerated and seeks parental consent to these expectations. The policy also sets out the actions the school can take should this code be ignored or where breaches occur.

Behaviour that will not be tolerated:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Threatening in any way, a member of staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff/governors at the school on Facebook or other sites
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child or staff member. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises.
- 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, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events)
- Breaking of any CORONAVIRUS laws, for example, breaking the 2m rule or gathering outside school.
- Anything that could be seen as a sign of harassment of any member of the school community, such as any form of insulting social media post or any form of social media cyber bullying. (The School Community consists of any person in connection with the school, parents, carers, pupils, teachers).

Please note: can parents/carers please make sure all persons collecting their children are aware of this policy.

Should any of the above occur on school premises or in connection with school, the school may feel it is necessary to act by contacting the appropriate authorities and/or sadly, consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises altogether.

Conduct with Social Media

Most people take part in online activities and social media. It's fun, interesting and keeps us connected. There are various online school groups managed by parents for parents, such as school Facebook pages and WhatsApp groups. These are not the School's but they can be a wonderful source of knowledge, support and advice, if used positively.

Within these online activities and social media, however we ask that you use common sense when discussing school life online as you never know who you may offend.

Think before you post

We ask that social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, school staff, parents or pupils. We take very seriously inappropriate use of social media by a parent to publicly humiliate or criticise another parent, pupil or member of staff. If parents have any concerns about their child in relation to the school as we have said above they should:

Initially contact the class teacher

If the concern remains they should contact the head teacher

If still unresolved, the school governors through the Complaints procedure

They should not use social media as a medium to air any concerns or grievances, as we always encourage open dialogue, and the quickest way to resolve any issue is to speak to us direct first. We are always willing to help and resolve any issues as soon as possible for the best result all round, from helping understand any problems the parents have and resolving these as quick as possible, without escalating the issues on social media and to ensure the smooth delivery of education. Everyone should also be aware of GDPR rules and regulations and the Safeguarding Laws on discussing other pupils, sharing pupil data or school data as well.

Online activity which we consider inappropriate:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of pupils
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, pupils or other parents
- Bringing the school in disrepute
- Posting defamatory or libellous comments
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff or pupils
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children
- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language
- Breaching school security procedures

What happens if someone ignores or breaks the code?

In the event of any parent/carer or visitor of the school breaking this code, then proportionate actions will be taken as follows:

In cases where the unacceptable behaviour is considered to be a serious and potentially criminal matter the concerns will in the first instance be referred to the local police department. This will include any or all cases of threats or violence and actual violence to any child, staff or governor in the school.

In cases where evidence suggests that behaviour would be tantamount to libel or slander then the school will refer the matter to the County Council's Legal Team for further action.

In cases where the code of conduct has been broken but the breach was not libellous, slanderous or criminal matter, then the school will send out a formal letter to the parent/carer with an invite to a meeting.

If the parent/carer refuses to attend the meeting then the school will write to the parent/carer and ask them to stop the behaviour causing the concern and warn that if they do not they may be removed from the school.

Issues of conduct with the use of Social Media

At our school we take our safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents appropriately in line with the actions outlined above.

Legal framework

Please speak to our Headmaster for Key Information on these Legislation.

The Children Act 1989

The Equality Act 2010

Children and Families Act 2014

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 1992

The Human Rights Act 1998

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

Working Together to Safeguard Children

Further guidance

Safeguarding Policy

Social Media Policy

This School Policy was adopted by St. Crispin's School Limited on: 04.01.13 To be updated:

Annually

Reviewed/Updated:

01/11/13

04/05/14

01/02/15

05/10/16

25/01/17

26/02/18

21/02/19

06/06/20

Signed on behalf of the Provider:



Mr. A. Atkin (Headmaster).