

PARENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Purpose and scope

At The Hamble School we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for students, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our students at all times

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and students (through our behaviour policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a student
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

2. Our expectations of Parents and Carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our students
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct
- Approach the appropriate member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Physically intimidating a member of staff, or students, e.g. standing very close to her/him;
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, students or other parents
- Threatening any member of the school community
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Continuing to raise the same issue despite it having been already addressed by the school
- Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult



- Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- A large volume of emails in respect of the same matter over a short period of time
- Covertly recording phone calls or meetings with members of staff
- Any other behaviour that is disrespectful, threatening or offensive

Please note this is not an exhaustive list.

4. Breaching the code of conduct

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and may speak to the parent about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Verbally inform the parent or stakeholder that their behaviour is considered unacceptable, and they will be warned that further action will be taken if it does not change
- Send a warning letter to the parent stating that their behaviour is unacceptable, with a warning about potential further actions if improvements are not made
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the Headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the Local Authority's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- A contact plan may be established to manage communication between the individual and the school. This might include stipulating that, except in emergencies, all communications must be in writing to a designated person. The school can also set timelines for responses and limit the number of communications in cases of persistent complaints
- Ban the parent from the school site.

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the Headteacher.

The Headteacher may consult the Chair of Governors before banning a parent from the school site.

By sending your child to The Hamble School you accept the expectations in the parental code of conduct and the home school agreement.

