

Code of Conduct for Visitors to School



Severne Primary School

1. Introduction

We are an effective school that has built up a solid and impressive culture of respect and positive values over many years. We have decided to adopt this Code of Conduct for Visitors following consultation with parent representatives of the School Governing Board, staff and pupils via the School Council in order to help us further our aim to provide an exemplary education and learning environment for each pupil, based on their needs, in which everyone treats each other with kindness and courtesy.

2. Purpose

This document provides an explanation of the acceptable standard of behaviour expected from visitors to the school premises and those interacting with its pupils and staff in order to make this school a safe place to learn, work and visit.

3. Our ethos and values

Severne Primary School – Our Ethos

Severne Primary School offers a positive, safe learning environment for its community, in which everyone has equal and individual recognition and respect. Our vision for Severne School is that we want our children to have roots – the academic foundation, self-confidence and positive attitude on which success in school depends. We want our children to have wings – the thinking skills, creativity, flexibility, enthusiasm and broad view to soar beyond the commonplace.

Everyone within the school has an important role to play in sharing responsibility for the development of positive behaviour and attitudes.

Aims:

In our school we are committed to developing:

- A thriving, happy ethos where every child is valued equally and cared for.
- A safe, welcoming and stimulating environment that promotes support and respect.
- A broad, balanced, relevant and enriched curriculum, that meets the needs of each child, delivered through high quality teaching.
- Children with a positive sense of self-worth who are confident, ambitious, respectful and able to show an appreciation for themselves and others around them.

- A positive partnership with the wider community, where children are valued and will grow to become active citizens.
- An awareness of life skills in order that children may make informed and healthy choices.

4. What you can expect of us, and what we expect of you

The School and its staff will:

- Treat visitors to our school site with respect to which they are entitled;
- Ensure that visitors to our school site are supervised, where necessary;
- Check the identity of contractors, workers and other visitors to our school site, as necessary;
- Act in accordance with our safeguarding policy (see the school's website); and
- Do all that they reasonably can to ensure that our school site is a safe and welcoming learning and working environment.

All visitors to our school, when interacting with our pupils, staff and other Parent/Carers, are expected to behave calmly, politely and respectfully. This means that visitors must:

- treat our school population, environment and property with respect;
- follow our school rules, protocols and any instructions given by school staff;
- report anything that puts anyone on our site at risk to a member of our staff;
- accept that they are responsible for their child's behaviour and safety, whilst the child is in their care, even when they are on our school premises.

5. The type of behaviour that the School considers unacceptable

Our School will decide on a case by case basis whether a visitor's behaviour is unacceptable, but any behaviour that we believe adversely affects our safe and caring learning environment and/or puts the physical or emotional wellbeing of a pupil, member of staff, parent or other visitor at risk, is not acceptable behaviour on our school site.

This may include, but is not limited to:

- disruptive behaviour;
- aggressive or threatening speech or behaviour e.g. by swearing, threatening or shouting at others, taking an aggressive stance, threatening to strike someone or assaulting another person;
- damaging school property;
- behaviour that could be considered racist, sexist, homophobic or similarly offensive in some other way;
- smoking, vaping or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst on our school site;
- bringing animals on to our school site, other than guide dogs;
- being in possession of weapons of any kind;
- refusing to follow the reasonable instructions of our staff.

In addition, unacceptable behaviour also includes any communication with a member of our school's community that is malicious, threatening or abusive, including in person, over the telephone or in writing, e.g. by letter, email or any other electronic format, such as social media, regardless of whether it takes place on the school premises.

6. How the School will respond to behaviour that is unacceptable

In most cases the school will attempt to informally remedy the situation by speaking with the individual concerned, privately. There may be no further action.

Where there is any dispute over what has occurred, or if the alleged incident is complex or serious, the school will conduct a formal investigation in order to establish the facts and determine what action should be taken, if any.

If the school decides that a visitor's behaviour has been unacceptable the school or, in some cases the Local Authority on the school's behalf, may decide to:

- Informally, i.e. verbally, warn the visitor about their behaviour;
- Formally, i.e. in writing, warn the visitor about their behaviour;
- Ban the visitor from the premises for a specified period;
- Ban the visitor from the school premises, whilst a formal investigation into their behaviour takes place; or
- Report the behaviour to the Police.

Visitors will be entitled to make representations to the governing board, in line with the school's complaints procedure, if they disagree with the decision reached by the school.

7. Questions and concerns about this Code

The School is grateful for the support that it receives from visitors in maintaining its caring and safe learning and working environment, so any feedback that you may have about the content of this Code, is welcomed.

Please direct any feedback or questions about the Code to the school office who will refer your comments on to an appropriate member of staff.

Adopted by the Governing Board of: Severne Primary School on:

Signed by (Chair of Governors) Date