



# Aycliffe Village Primary School

*Great oaks from tiny acorns grow*

## Code of Conduct for Parents/Carers and other adults visiting our school

### Mission Statement

*We are a safe, happy, caring school giving opportunity, challenge and encouragement to everyone.*

### Rationale

We believe our school should be a safe, calm environment for children, staff and visiting adults. This is essential to enabling us to fulfil our core function of educating children to the highest of standards, academically, spiritually, morally and socially.

Our aim is to create a positive and uplifting environment not only for our children but also for all who work and visit our school. Our expectation is that all members of the school community and all visitors to school should treat each other with respect and in a way they would like to be treated themselves.

### Code of Conduct

At Aycliffe Village Primary School we strive for strong relationships with parents, carers and family members. Together this helps us achieve the very best for our children in a mutually supportive partnership between parents, staff and the wider school community.

As a partnership our parents/carers understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip their children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continually welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

To truly create the best outcome for children requires the relationship between home and school to be based on the principles of care, integrity, trust and mutual respect. The maintenance of this relationship is important to ensure that children are safe, not open to undue distress and anxiety and receive a high quality education.

### Key principles

Parents/carers and other visiting adults to our school are reminded:

- To respect the caring ethos and values of the school
- That both teaching staff and parents/carers need to work together for the benefit of their children
- To approach school staff for help to resolve an issue in an appropriate manner, even if they are feeling upset or angry
- All members of the school community are to be treated with respect using appropriate language and tone of voice
- School needs to work with a child in order to clarify their version of events in order to bring about an appropriate solution to an issue
- About the importance of working with the school if their child's actions or behaviours have given cause for concern

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school will not tolerate the following from any visitor to school:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the schools operation or activities anywhere on the school premises (or at the edges of the school premises, eg the main gate, if children, parents/carers, staff are affected by this
- Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper
- Threatening, in any way, a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parents/carer or pupil
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Sending abusive or threatening emails by text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications to anyone within the school community (including other children and/or parents/carers)
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/family members/staff/governors, at the school, on Facebook or other social media sites (please see Appendix 1)
- Continuous unpleasant or disrespectful behaviour or attitude towards staff members
- The use of physical or verbal aggression toward another adult or child. This includes towards your own child/ren.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions towards their own child (such an approach 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 or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol whilst on school premises
- Dogs being brought onto school premises (other than assistance dogs)
- The expression of any derogatory remarks or extreme and disrespectful language, for example racism, homophobia, sexism.

Should any of the above occur on school premises the adult will be asked to leave immediately. It is likely further actions will be taken, for example a written warning may be issued to the adult about their conduct or, for extreme or repeated behaviour, we will contact the legal team at the Local Authority with a view to banning the adult from our school premises.

It is important that parents/carers make any adult collecting their child from school on their behalf, aware of the contents of this policy.

## Appendix 1

### Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

Nationally, social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, school staff and in some cases other pupils or parents.

The Department of Education, Durham Local Authority and Governors of Aycliffe Village Primary School consider the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable. Any concerns you may have about the school or your child/ren must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Head Teacher or the Chairs of Governors where they will be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned. We have a clear Complaints Policy (on our website) which details the process and actions to be taken if it is felt a concern or initial complaint hasn't been dealt with effectively.

Libellous or Defamatory posts – In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren at Aycliffe Village Primary School posts libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social networking 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 contact or activity which breaches this. The school will expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately and would also issues a warning letter. In these circumstances we may also contact the legal team at Durham Local Authority for guidance about an appropriate response.

Cyber Bullying – we take very seriously the use of cyber bullying by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We would take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

Signature: <i>B Dean</i>	Governor (Chair of Children, School and Community Committee)
Signature: <i>H Sutherland</i>	Head Teacher

Ratified by the governing body on	20.06.18
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Policy Review Date	June 2020
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