



# **St. Vincent's Catholic Primary School**

**Visitor Code of Conduct**

## **St. Vincent's Catholic Primary School Visitors' Code of Conduct**

We encourage partnerships with our parents, and work hard to maintain mutual respect and recognition of shared responsibility for the children.

The code of conduct for visitors to school is that of mutual respect for school staff and children to all visitors. Included in this is respect for school property, other visitors and children.

The school expects parents and carers to:

- Respect the caring ethos of the school
- Understand that parents and teachers need to work together for the benefit of children
- Demonstrate in their own behaviour that all members of the school community should be treated with respect
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue
- Correct their own child's behaviour, especially where it could lead to conflict
- Approach school staff to help resolve issues
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school does not tolerate:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, office or other area of school grounds
- Loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing or displaying temper
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, governor, visitor, parent/carer or pupil
- Damaging or destroying school property
- Sending abusive or threatening emails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school on any social media sites
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physically punishing your own child on school premises
- Chastising someone else's child
- Smoking, or consuming alcohol or drugs whilst on school property
- Bringing dogs on to school premises

We thank our visitors for observing this.

However, in a very small minority of cases, the behaviour of a few parents can cause disruption, resulting in abusive or aggressive behaviour towards staff, other parents or visitors.

This will not be tolerated. All members of the school community have a right to expect that their school is a safe place.

If the parent's behaviour is unreasonable, permission for them to be on the school premises may be withdrawn and they will become a trespasser.

### **Procedures**

If an incident arises, the member of staff should follow these procedures:

- Ask the person to leave or invite them to a room away from a crowded area or classroom.
- Ask the Head (or a member of the SLT) for support.
- In the event of violence or aggression, contact the police using 999.

### **After the Incident**

The Head will

- Ask the people who witnessed the incident to make witness reports in writing as soon as possible after the incident. (See attached Incident Report Form). Reports must be signed and dated.
- Make it clear that the reports may be disclosed to the perpetrator and the witness should say whether or not they are prepared for this to happen.
- Consider whether the person should be banned or given a warning letter.
- The Head will discuss this with the Chair of Governors and keep her/him informed.
- If a letter is thought appropriate, a letter will be sent to him or her.
- If a ban is appropriate, the Head Teacher will give the parent an opportunity to make representations about this before finalising the ban. If the Head Teacher considers it unwise to allow the parent back on the premises at this time, s/he will impose a temporary ban for a week, to give the parent an opportunity to make representations in writing. As soon as this happens, the Head will write to the parent informing him/her of the decision to extend the ban or not to renew it after the initial week has elapsed.
- If a ban is renewed after the initial week, the Head will impose any further ban for a fixed period of time and explain that s/he will review the ban at the end of that period.

### **Police Assistance**

In the event of a parent (or other person) becoming aggressive or violent, schools **should not hesitate to contact the police using 999**. When the situation does not require immediate Police response, but there is prior knowledge of likely trouble, the Head Teacher may contact the local Police Station or the school's Police Liaison Officer for advice.

**INCIDENT REPORT FORM**

This includes trespass, nuisance or disturbance on school premises, verbal abuse, sexual or racial abuse, threats, aggression, physical violence and intentional damage to personal property.

This form should be completed as fully as possible (please use a continuation sheet if necessary). For an incident involving or witnessed by a child, a member of staff should complete the form on their behalf. However, any discussion between one witness and another should not precede completion of the form, as this might lead to allegations of collusion.

Date of incident .....

Day of week .....

Time .....

**1. Member of staff reporting incident**

Name .....

Work address (if different from school address).

.....

Position .....

**2. Personal details of person assaulted/verbally abused (if appropriate)**

Name .....

Work address (if different from school address)/home address (if pupil).

.....

Job/Position (if member of staff) .....

Dept/Section/Class.....

Age ..... Sex .....

**3. Details of trespasser/assailant(s) (if known)**

.....

**4. Witness(es) if any**

Name .....

Address.....

Age (approx) ..... Sex .....

**Other information**

Relationship between member of staff/pupil and trespasser/assailant, if any.

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**5. Details of incident**

a) **Type of incident** (eg if trespass, was the trespasser causing a nuisance or disturbance and how; if assault, give details of any injury suffered, treatment received etc).

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b) **Location of incident** (attach sketch if appropriate).

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c) **Other details:** describe incident, including, where relevant, events leading up to it; relevant details of trespasser/assailant not given above; if a weapon was involved, who else was present?

6. **Outcome:** (eg whether police called; whether trespasser was removed from premises under section 547; whether parents contacted; what happened after the incident; any legal action?).

**7. Other information (to be completed as appropriate)**

a) Possible contributory factors.

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b) Is trespasser/assailant known to have been involved in any previous incidents YES/NO?

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c) Give date and brief details of (b) if known.

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d) Had any measures been taken to try to prevent an incident of this type occurring? If so, what? Could they be improved?

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e) If no measures had been taken beforehand, could action now be taken? If so, what?

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f) Name and contact details of police officer involved, and incident number or crime reference number, as appropriate.

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g) Any other relevant information.

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Signed.....

Date .....

