



Parent Code of Conduct

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1. Purpose and scope

At Norbreck Primary Academy 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 pupils, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils 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 pupils (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 pupil
- 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 pupils
- 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 right 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
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms including WhatsApp
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- 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 psychoactive substances)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs or therapy dogs with proof of training and public liability insurance cover of up to £5,000,000)

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 speak to the parent about the incident.

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

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- 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 our legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- 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 will consult the Chair of Trustees before banning a parent from the school site.

Appendix 1: WhatsApp Guide for Parents and Carers

Norbreck's WhatsApp Group Guidelines ...for parents

Independent parent WhatsApp groups are a tool to share useful communication about school. Stay factual with whole class/ school information.

Do not use WhatsApp groups as a platform to discuss or spread rumours about children, teachers or parents.

NEVER discuss the needs or behaviour of specific children in school.

Only write what you would feel comfortable telling someone respectfully face-to-face.

Think before you post- is it true, helpful, necessary, kind?

Respect the ethos and values of our school. Your actions should not bring the school into disrepute.

Avoid sharing personal views and beliefs.

Be a role model in your usage of social media. Children learn more from our own behaviour than they do from listening to us!

Norbreck strongly recommends that pupils do not use social media and WhatsApp groups.

If you share devices or accounts as a family, be aware of what your child may be able to access.

Support each other and the school community in making sure these guidelines are respected.

If you have a concern, make an appointment with an appropriate staff member who will be happy to help.