



Hovingham & St Hilda's CE (VC) Primary School's Federation



Our Responsibilities as Adults in Our School Communities

At Hovingham and St. Hilda's CEVC Primary Schools we are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As members of a partnership, our parents understand the importance of good working relationships to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Wherever we refer to "adults" we are referring to parents, staff, governors and all adults in our communities.

Guidance

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-School Agreement, we expect all adults visiting our schools to:

- respect the caring Christian ethos of our schools;
- understand that teachers and other adults need to work together for the benefit of the children;
- demonstrate that **all** members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour;
- 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 in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour;
- approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern; and
- avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the schools cannot tolerate adults visiting them exhibiting the following:

- disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches at other schools;
- using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper;
- threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence;
- damaging or destroying school property;
- abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication;
- making any comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the school on Facebook or other social sites. (See Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class

teacher, the Head teacher or the Chairman of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned;

- the use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises;
- approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child;
- smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property; or
- dogs being brought on to school premises, with the exception of assistance dogs.

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on school premises the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.

We trust that parents, carers and visitors will assist our schools with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the schools.

Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff and, in some cases, other parents/pupils. The Governors of Hovingham and St. Hilda's, Ampleforth CEVC Primary Schools consider social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned. In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at Hovingham and St. Hilda's, Ampleforth CEVC Primary Schools is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network 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 also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, there is the issue of cyber bullying, the use of social network sites by one child or parent to publicly humiliate another by making an inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this Code of Conduct.