

# BRIDGEWATER SCHOOL

WORSLEY, MANCHESTER

M28 2WQ

## PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

**SCOPE:** This policy covers all the parents and guardians of children attending Bridgewater School, including those in EYFS and any using the school's Early and Late Clubs. This policy is also applicable to members of the PTA Committee and its volunteers, as well as anyone who is acting 'in loco parentis' when bringing or collecting children from school.

### **Mission Statement**

Bridgewater is a caring school that aims to create a stimulating, learning environment in which every individual has the opportunity to be the best they can be.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

At Bridgewater School, we value our strong relationship with parents and guardians. Together this helps us achieve the very best for the children in a mutually supportive partnership between parents, class/form teachers and the school community.

As a partnership, our parents 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 or guardians to participate fully in the life of our school.

To truly create the best outcomes for children it 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 or students are safe and not open to undue distress and anxiety.

### **GUIDANCE**

As well as following the guidance set out in our School Contract and holding the above principles in mind, parents, guardians and visitors are reminded:

- To respect the caring ethos and values of the school.
- That both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Approaching school staff for help to resolve an issue is done in an appropriate manner.
- All members of the school community are treated with respect using appropriate language and behaviour.
- If a problem arises, the school will work with the child in order to bring about an appropriate solution to the issue.

- To correct their child's actions especially where it could lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour – both on and off the school premises.
- To use other strategies rather than using 'staff' as threats to admonish their children's behaviour.

**In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school will not tolerate parents, guardians or visitors exhibiting the following:**

- Disruptive behaviour that interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- 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 parent/guardian or pupil.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive or threatening emails, text/voicemail/phone messages, or other written communications to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff at the school including on social media sites (see Appendix 1).
- The use of physical or verbal aggression towards any adult or any child.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child 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. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events.)

Should **any** of the above occur on school premises, the school may feel it necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities and/or consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises or, sadly, requesting the removal of their child.

Thank you for abiding by this policy in our school. Together we create a positive and uplifting environment not only for the children but also for all who work and visit our school.

**Reviewed by the Head Teacher and Senior Management Team – December 2024**

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### **Acknowledgement**

**I have read and accepted the above Code of Conduct, school values and expectations.**

**Signed**                   -----

**Name**                   -----

**Pupil Name/s** -----

**Date**                   -----

## 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 or pupils.

The Department for Education/Government and Governors of Bridgewater 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/children must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class/form teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, where they will be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

**Libellous or Defamatory Posts** - In the event that any pupil or parent/guardian of a child/children at Bridgewater School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on 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 that can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity that breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/guardian or pupil remove such comments immediately.

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

The school will also consider its **legal options** to deal with any such misuse on social networking and other sites.

**Note:** Can parents please ensure they make all persons responsible for collecting their children aware of this policy.