



## WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

# Parent Code of Conduct

Date effective from:	Summer 2025
Prepared by:	Mr A Oliver
Approved by:	FGB Committee
Date approved:	TBC
Date of next review:	Summer Term 2026

### **Introduction:**

1. WCHS operates this Parents' and Carers' Code of Conduct, which has been agreed by the Governing Body.
2. WCHS believes that a strong home-school partnership is essential in order for our students to succeed, to thrive and to develop as learners and responsible citizens.
3. Within this partnership, parents/carers of children at WCHS will understand the importance and support the maintenance of a good working relationship with the school
4. **Parents / carers should indicate their agreement to act in accordance with this Code of Conduct by signing the Home School Agreement when their child commences school in Year 7.**

### **Purpose of the Code of Conduct**

5. To provide a clear statement to all parents / carers of the school's expectations in terms of their conduct
6. To outline the action that WCHS will take if a parent/carer's conduct does not meet these expectations
7. To support the vision and values of WCHS

### **Expectations of parents/carers**

In addition to following the Home/School Agreement we expect that parents/carers will:

- Adhere to our Communications Policy
- Follow WCHS expectations regarding Respect:
  - speaking and behaving respectfully towards school staff, students, governors and members of the school community
  - demonstrating respect for the school's reputation
  - approach the school in an appropriate and timely manner to help resolve or clarify concerns that they or their child may have, if it is appropriate for school to do so.
- understand that teachers / school staff and parents and carers need to work together for the benefit of students
- treat all members of the school community with respect at all times, thus setting a good example through their own conduct
- follow the process in the Complaints Policy if a concern is not otherwise resolved
- make anyone who may be involved in visiting the school with them or on their behalf aware of the Code of Conduct and the requirement to adhere to it

### **Unacceptable behaviour**

In order to maintain a safe and respectful environment in and around school, WCHS cannot tolerate parents/carers/ visitors engaging in the following:

- Using offensive or abusive language, swearing, shouting or displaying anger anywhere on the school site or in a phone call (which may be recorded) or electronic communication

- Making disparaging, libellous or slanderous comments about a member of staff at WCHS
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding WCHS, or any member of staff, students or parents/carers of students at the school on social media sites or platforms (such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, What's App etc.)
- Sending abusive or threatening messages via email, text or any other means
- Behaving in a manner which disrupts, interferes with or threatens to interfere with the smooth operation of the school
- Threatening harm to a member of staff, governor, visitor, parent/carer or student at WCHS regardless of whether or not that behaviour constitutes a criminal offence
- Approaching someone else's child in order to reprimand them because of that child's actions towards their own child
- Using physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against a parent/carer's own child on the school site
- Any form of harassment: including vexatious behaviour. This includes through repeated instances of any of the above
- Damaging or destroying property belonging to WCHS
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs at any time on school site, or consuming alcohol other than at a designated school event where alcohol is provided
- Bringing dogs, other than assistance dogs, onto school premises
- Trespassing on the school site, ie being on the school site other than to attend an appointment or event

### **Dealing with unacceptable behaviour**

If there is an incident of any of the unacceptable behaviours outlined above, the school may take **any** of the following actions

- clarify to the parent/carer verbally and/ or in writing that unacceptable behaviour has been observed and issue the parent/carer with a warning regarding their future conduct
- ask the parent/carer to a meeting to discuss the issue
- Impose conditions on the parent/carer's contact with the school and its staff, whether on site or off site
- Ban the parent/carer from entering the school site, after having given them opportunity to formally present their case
- Ban the parent/carer temporarily whilst waiting for them to formally present their case
- Contact the police if: the parent/carer has trespassed on school premises or entered the school site having been banned and has caused a nuisance or disturbance; the parent/carer has displayed any behaviour perceived as threatening; the parent/carer has persisted in abusive or inappropriate behaviour despite a warning; if deemed necessary to protect staff, students, other visitors or the school site
- Pursue legal action in order to seek redress, or to prevent a recurrence of any unacceptable behaviour

Whitworth Community High School will provide support for staff, students, parents/carers and governors who have been subject to incidents of unacceptable parent/carer behaviour. Any parental complaint arising from an incident of unacceptable behaviour will be addressed via the Complaints Policy.

The Headteacher will contact the Chair of Governors and/or Lancashire County Council for guidance where appropriate.