



## **WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL**

# **Parent Code of Conduct**

Date effective from:	Summer 2020
Prepared by:	Mrs G Middlemas
Date of next review:	Summer Term 2021

## **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 annually.**

## **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:

- 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 and concerns that they or their child may have
- 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.

Signed : .....

Dated : .....