

Parents'/Carers' Code of Conduct

Academy Vision

At Newcastle Academy we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our Academies are an orderly and safe place where relationships between staff, parents and visitors demonstrate mutual respect and recognition of shared responsibility for our pupils' welfare and educational success. As part of that partnership our parents understand the importance of a good working relationship in order to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of both Academies.

The purpose of this notice is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our Academies about their expected conduct both in and around the vicinity of either Academy's premises. This is so that we can continue to enable children to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Guidance

As well as following the guidance set out in our Home-Academy agreements, we expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that all members of the Academy 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 Academy'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 relevant Academy to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

In order to support a peaceful and safe Academy environment we cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, office or any other area of either Academy grounds.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to harm a member of either Academy staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying Academy property.
- Sending abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications.
- Defamation of either Academy or staff character on Facebook or other social networking sites.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on either Academy premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of their actions towards your own child/ren.
- Smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs.
- Cycling on Academy premises.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on, or in the direct vicinity of premises that has a direct impact on any member of either Academy, the Academy will implement the following actions.

- **Verbal Warning/Mediation Meeting**
A parent who displays any of the behaviour as described above will be asked politely to desist and offered the opportunity to discuss the matter in person.
- **A Formal Written Warning**
A formal written letter will be sent to the parent where they continue to act unacceptably. This is signed by the Academy Principal and circulated to relevant internal parties to ensure that an informed approach can be adopted. This letter will also be circulated to the Chair of the Local Governing Body. A copy will be kept on file of any student at the Academy for a period of twelve months.
- **A Formal Banning**
A formal ban will be implemented if after a formal written warning behaviours have continued or if extreme behaviours have occurred that the Principal, Chair of the Local Governing Body and in certain cases legal representatives or the Police feel warrant exclusion from the Academy premises. The length of the ban will be for a set period of time. The aim should always be to restore “normal” relations as soon as reasonably practicable.
- **Prosecution under Section 547, Education Act 1996**
After receiving a formal ban it will then be an offence for a trespasser on the Academy premises to cause or permit a nuisance or disturbance. This allows for the removal and prosecution of any person believed to have committed the offence. The penalty for a person convicted of the offence is a fine of up to £500.
- **Further Legal Sanctions**
If a parent breaches the expected standard of behaviour as set out in this code of conduct despite formal written warnings, then the Academy will consider further legal guidance in the form of:-
 - An injunction under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997
 - An Anti-Social Behaviour Order

At all times, the common purpose in these Academies remains clear: to achieve zero tolerance of violence, threatening behaviour or abuse and to ensure all members of both Academies community and all visitors can be confident that they are operating within a safe environment.



J Henshaw
Executive Principal – Newcastle Academy



L Newton
Associate Principal – Newcastle Academy



Aiming Higher Together