



Expectations and commitments regarding parental behaviour and conduct

<i>Date approved by the Headteacher</i>	<i>Review Period</i>	<i>Date to be reviewed</i>
<i>March 2024</i>	<i>Annual</i>	<i>March 2025</i>

1. Purpose and scope

At Knights Templar Community Church School and Nursery our Christian Distinctive Vision is:

“For everyone to be the best they can be, with a thirst for learning, a zest for living and a spirit of kindness.”

In order to achieve this, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for our learners, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our learners at all times which is reflected in our policies, which includes but is not limited to the Relationships Policy, SEN Policy and Supporting Positive Behaviour Policy.

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and learners (through our Supporting Positive Behaviour policy).

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- Anyone caring for a child or acting in 'loco parentis' (such as grandparents, other family members, friends or child-minders)

2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our learners
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Address their own child's behaviour (or those in their care) where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct specifically whilst on the school site or when participating in school events such as trips or visits
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

The school takes instances of inappropriate behaviour very seriously and will not tolerate any circumstances that may make learners, staff members and other members of the school community feel threatened.

Parental behaviour that the school does not tolerate includes the following:

- *Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds)*
- *Swearing, or using offensive language*
- *Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, learners or other parents*
- *Threatening a member of the school community*
- *Sending abusive messages to a member of the school community, including via text, email or via social media*
- *Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms*
- *Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult*
- *Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention*
- *Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)*
- *Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs or those permitted for specific medical reasons)*

4. Managing inappropriate behaviour

If a parent is behaving inappropriately, a report will be made to the headteacher, or the most senior member of staff available in their absence, who will decide on the most appropriate course of action. Where the inappropriate behaviour is directed towards the headteacher, a report will be made to the Chair of Governors.

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the headteacher.

Instances of parents displaying inappropriate behaviour will be managed in a variety of ways, depending on the severity of the situation.

When a parent has behaved inappropriately, they will be invited to a meeting by the headteacher to discuss their behaviour and to attempt to resolve the issue. Where this initial meeting is not sufficient to resolve the issue, the headteacher, in collaboration with other staff and relevant agencies, will consider what further action may be required. This action, depending on the situation, could include the following:

- *Barring the parent from the school premises.*
- *Contacting the police.*
- *Seeking legal redress through the courts.*
- *Restricting the parent's channels of communication to the school, e.g. no longer allowing the parent to send emails to a staff member directly.*
- *Reporting content the parent has posted online to the social media provider/website's administration or to the police.*

- Referring the case to children's social care, where the behaviour indicates that the parent poses a risk to children.

As a school, we reserve the right to escort anyone off the premises who is displaying aggressive or disruptive behaviour.

The police may be contacted to provide advice on managing an incident or to assist in the removal of an individual from the premises, where necessary.

If a parent persistently displays unacceptable and inappropriate behaviour, this may result in them being barred from the school premises – see next section.

5. Barring from the Site

The school has the right to bar a parent from the premises to keep the school community safe. If a parent is displaying inappropriate or concerning behaviour, they will be asked to leave the school premises.

Behaviour that could result in a parent being asked to leave the premises includes aggressive, abusive or insulting behaviour or language that is a risk to staff or students, or behaviour that is making staff or students feel threatened.

If a parent persistently or consistently behaves inappropriately on the school site, or there is a one-off incident of extremely inappropriate behaviour, the school reserves the right to bar this individual from the school site.

The school will either:

- Bar the parent temporarily, until the parent has had the opportunity to formally present their side.
- Inform the parent that they intend to bar them and invite them to present their side.
- The headteacher will send a letter to the parent, informing them of the following information:
 - Why they have been temporarily barred or face a bar
 - The nature of the bar, i.e. if they are temporarily barred pending their representation or if they must present their side before the decision to bar can be made
 - That they have the right to formally express their views on the decision to bar in writing to the chair of governors within 10 working days

The headteacher's decision to bar the parent will be reviewed by the chair of governors.

The chair of governors will take account of any representations made by the parent and decide whether to confirm or lift the bar.

The parent will be notified in writing of the decision to uphold or lift the bar.

If the decision is confirmed, the parent will be notified in writing, explaining:

- How long the bar will be in place.*
- When the decision will be reviewed.*

Decisions to bar will be reviewed at the end of the agreed timescale, in line with the process outlined above. Following a review, the bar may be lifted or, if there are grounds for continued concern regarding the parent's conduct, it may be extended.

Once the appeal process has been completed, parents that remain barred may be able to apply to the Civil Courts. If a parent wishes to exercise this option, they should seek independent legal advice.

All parents will be provided with a copy of this code of conduct upon their child's attendance at the school, and are required to familiarise themselves with the procedures and guidelines outlined.