



# Ryhall CE Academy

part of a Multi Academy Trust

**Peterborough Diocese Education Trust**



## **POLICY STATEMENT**

### **Parent Code of Conduct**

<b>Formulation date:</b>	June 2015
<b>Senior Team Responsibility:</b>	K Walker
<b>Date approved by Governors:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2015
<b>Amended:</b>	March 2021
<b>Next Review Date:</b>	March 2022

#### **Associated Documentation:**

Safeguarding Policy  
Home School Agreement  
Complaints Policy

## Ethos Statement

### Our Vision:

Ryhall CE Academy will provide the best learning environment that embraces excellence and academic rigour. Set within a framework of spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional, moral, social and cultural development, we aim to:

- ignite a passion for life-long learning;
- develop great thinkers who embrace challenge;
- promote curiosity, enthusiasm, independence, self-belief and confidence.

inspiring and preparing every child to live 'life in all its fullness'.

*'I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness'*

*(John 10:10 Good News Translation)*

Our strong Christian ethos encourages:

**compassion,  
friendship,  
hope,  
trust  
respect  
and resilience**

and we believe these values should underpin everything we do, both during and beyond the school day, including the decisions that we make. These, together with the value of resilience, provide a strong sense of perseverance and lifelong learning, honesty, mutual respect, happiness, enjoyment and high standards. Whilst they are a visible presence around the school, our values are far more; all members of the school are actively encouraged to live them out every day. Our 'strapline'

**'look back with pride and move forward with confidence;**

encourages children to face their fears, demonstrate endurance, believe in their ability and value all that is strong and good about themselves.

### Equal Opportunities Statement

All children and adults, regardless of race, religion, gender, age or ability shall be equally valued and respected. We believe this is an integral and vital part of our learning.

### Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people. We expect all staff, volunteers and parents to share this commitment. All safeguarding concerns should be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Mrs Walker (Headteacher) or Mrs Jesson or Mrs Jibb (Deputy DSLs) in her absence.

However, please note that any adult may contact the Social Care Duty Team at the County Council should they have a concern about a child. Looking after children is everyone's responsibility.

## 1. Purpose and scope

At Ryhall CE Academy, 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 pupils, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times

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 pupils (through our Behaviour Policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

## 2. Guidance

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

- Respect the caring Christian ethos, vision and values of our school
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression or unsafe conduct
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

## 3. Behaviours that will not be tolerated

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

- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms\*
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- 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)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)

\*Adverse publicity is potentially criminal and /or slanderous and therefore could be subject to legal investigation (see Appendix 1). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Head teacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned (see Complaints Policy).

#### **4. Breaching the code of conduct**

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent in to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the Headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the trust's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site

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.

The Headteacher will consult the Chair of Governors/Trust CEO before banning a parent from the school site.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

## **Inappropriate use of Social Network Site**

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils. The Governors of Ryhall CE Academy considers the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in the schools is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other 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 which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another (including a member of staff) by inappropriate social network entry – this also includes by social media groups e.g. Whatsapp, etc. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.