Headteacher: Mrs. C. Black
Ropery Walk Primary School
Ropery Walk, Seaham, SR77JZ. Phone: 01915813959
www.roperywalk.org.uk
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Code of Conduct For Parents and Carers

A guide to supporting you and your child successfully through school

At Ropery Walk Primary School we are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers to create a respectful, communicative and mutually supportive relationship.

To create a welcoming and safe learning environment, the school implements a specifically designed set of rules regarding behaviour and conduct which parents are expected to act in accordance with.

All staff members have the right to work without fear of violence or abuse; therefore, physical attacks, threatening behaviour, and abusive or insulting language towards staff members, governors, visitors, pupils or other parents may result in individuals being removed from the premises.

This document outlines the manner in which parents are expected to act whilst on the school premises, as well as detailing the type of behaviour that will not be tolerated. This includes parents dealing with matters outside of school, which are school business.

Supporting you and your child successfully through school

At Ropery Walk Primary School, we are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers to create a respectful, communicative and mutually supportive relationship.

We welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

This guide outlines what the school expects parents and carers to do to support the school to ensure their child can flourish and progress in an atmosphere of co-operation and mutual understanding.

The essentials:

- ✓ Make sure your child arrives to school on time and is picked up promptly (if appropriate). Please let us know if you are running late or if your child is going home with someone else
- ✓ Any children who do arrive late to school, must be signed in by an adult at the school office.
- ✓ Complete all consent, contact and medical forms and inform us immediately if anything changes

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- ✓ Make sure your child has the right clothing for any activity they are involved in
- ✓ Maintain a good relationship with your child's class teacher and attend workshops, school events and parent updates wherever possible or re-arrange if necessary to share information about your child's development.
- ✓ Talk to us if you have any concerns about any part of your child's education and development – we want to hear from you.
- ✓ If you have a concern, please contact the school as soon as possible. We want to work with parents and carers to resolve any issues as quickly as possible. If your concern cannot be resolved informally, the school has a formal complaint policy and procedures which you can access on the school website or through the school office

The school expects parents and carers to:

- ✓ Respect the caring ethos of the school
- ✓ Understand that parents and staff need to work together for the benefit of our children
- ✓ Demonstrate in their own behaviour that all members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour
- ✓ Understand that even if there is conflict or disagreement, we expect parents to remain as calm as possible, treat staff and other parents or carers with respect and be mindful that we are all working together for the child's best interests
- ✓ Approach school staff to inform them of any issue and allow them to help resolve issues
- ✓ Work with the school to build relationships with staff
- ✓ Understand that moving children between classes is not something the school can do at the request of parents or carers
- ✓ Understand that a child's version of events, while a valid reflection of the child's experience, may not fully explain the context and other factors which may have impacted on the event or incident. We expect parents to discuss situations and incidents with the school and work in partnership to resolve any issues as quickly and peacefully as possible
- ✓ Take responsibility for their own child's behaviour, especially where it could lead to conflict and take appropriate action to address this
- ✓ Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children
- ✓ It is unacceptable to record telephone conversations with staff members or to record meetings with staff and/or Governors at the school, without making them aware you

are doing it and seeking their permission to capture what could be their personal information and breach their human right to privacy which extends to their workplace

✓

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school does not tolerate:

- × Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, office or other area of school grounds
- × Loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing or displaying temper
- × Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, governor, visitor, parent/carer or pupil
- × Damaging or destroying school property
- × Sending abusive or threatening emails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- × Sending any form of correspondence to members of staff or Governors at the school demanding an immediate response or a response within your own time frame as the matter will be addressed, where appropriate, in a time frame deemed appropriate by the recipient
- × Sending lengthy, frequent, demanding, or disrespectful emails to staff members as this will seriously undermine their ability to carry out their core role of educating the children in their care
- × The use of social media to make defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school
- × Parents taking a school matter into their own hands eg contacting another parent about a school matter
- × The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physically punishing your own child on school premises
- × Chastising someone else's child
- × Smoking or consuming alcohol or drugs whilst on school property
- × Bringing dogs onto school premises

We want all our children, parents, carers and staff to feel safe and welcome at school and hope sharing our expectations with you will help us all to work together to achieve this.

If we feel that a parent or carer is acting in a way which contradicts this code of conduct, we will address the problem at the earliest opportunity and aim to resolve the issue positively if possible.

Persistent concerns or breaches may result in banning the offending adult from entering the school grounds. This is something we never want to do but the welfare and safety of children and adults on our school site is paramount.

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Inappropriate Use of Social Media

- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school should not be shared on social media
- Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels or using the school's complaints policy 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 being educated at Ropery Walk Primary School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments using social media, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the site. All social media 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 any parent/carer or pupil to remove such comments or material immediately
- In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social media. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, is the issue of cyberbullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another using social media. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare
- We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy

Dress and Appearance

- We expect all adults accessing our site to dress appropriately at all times
- Please avoid clothing that may be viewed as offensive, revealing, sexually provocative, display contentious slogans etc

Photographs, Videos and Images

- Photographs and videos should only be taken under the direction and supervision of senior leaders within the school with the subject being your child
- Images and videos taken must never be shared or posted on social networking sites

- No electronic equipment should be used whilst in school. This includes mobile devices, mobile phones and cameras. All equipment should be switched off whilst in school

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For further information refer to our Photographic Policy

School Security

- Adults on site must sign in and wear a visible visitor's badge. Those without an enhanced DBS will be supervised at all times.

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Meeting to discuss a breach of the parent/carer code of conduct

Date:

Parent/Carer name:

Parent/Carer of:

Present at the meeting:

Summary of concern or breach:

Outcome:

Agreed next steps:

-
-
-
-
-

Parent (signature):

Head / Designated Safeguarding Lead (signature):