



King Charles School

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Rationale

In general, relationships and behaviour at King Charles are exemplary. Where there are concerns about a pupil's behaviour, our 'open door' policy ensures that close contact with parents and carers is maintained. School rules are kept to a minimum and exist to maintain good work habits, develop good personal relationships, encourage respect for other people, property within the school environment and also within the wider community.

At King Charles we are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between home and school and understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for life. For these reasons we welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this document is to provide a reminder to all parents and visitors to our schools about expected conduct so that we can work together to ensure a safe and positive school environment for our children.

Respect and Concern for Others and their Rights

This guidance supports implementation of the Home-School Agreement. We expect parents and carers to show respect and concern for others by:

- supporting the respectful ethos of our school by setting a good example in their own speech and behaviour towards all members of the school community;
- working together with teachers for the benefit of children. This includes following our school's complaints procedure by approaching the school to resolve any issues of concern and to discuss and clarify specific events in order to bring about a positive solution;
- correcting own child's behaviour, especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour;
- respecting the school environment, including keeping the school tidy by not littering;
- following the parking rules outside of the school boundaries and doing the right thing when delivering and collecting children from school (full guidance available from 'Access to school site' policies).

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, the school cannot accept:

- disruptive behaviour which interferes with the operation of a classroom, an office area or any other part of the school grounds;
- using loud and/or offensive language or displaying temper;
- threatening harm or the use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them and physical punishment against your own child on school premises. (Some actions may constitute an assault with legal consequences)
- intentional undermining of school policy and procedure through unauthorised actions on the school site e.g seeking names on a petition;
- damaging or destroying school property;
- abusive or threatening emails, abusive social networking contact, or phone messages;

- intentional undermining of school policy and procedure through social media e.g distributing inaccurate information via Facebook, Whats App or others;
- smoking and consumption of alcohol or other drugs or accessing the school site whilst intoxicated;
- dogs being brought onto the school premises (with the exception of Guide Dogs or approved dogs visiting the school)

The above behaviours will be reported to the appropriate authorities and Governors may prohibit an offending adult from entering the school grounds to safeguard our school community.

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

Inappropriate Use of Social Network Sites

King Charles School recognises that social media sites are increasingly being used privately amongst parents as a means of communicating about school. We ask that parents who do so are mindful that the school website provides factual information about the school's routines and activities, and that concerns, complaints and questions should always be addressed to school through the appropriate channels, and not through social media sites.

The school also recognises that social media sites are increasingly being used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils.

The Governing Board 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 Deputy Headteacher, 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 parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at King Charles 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 any parent/carer removes such comments immediately.

Any attempts by parents to intentionally undermine school policy, procedure and/or the future development of the school, through unauthorised actions on social networking sites such as closed Facebook or WhatsApp groups, is unacceptable and the school will expect the administrators of any unauthorised group to close it down with immediate effect.

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 by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

Additional Guidance for Parents/Carers

We aim to support all parent/caregivers in the education of their son/daughter. The Parent/Caregiver Code of Conduct is intended as a guideline to ensure mutual understanding therefore, the following additional guidance is intended to further clarify expectations.

We know a child learns behaviours and values from the example their parent/caregivers, teachers, people around them, and peers display.

Parents/Caregivers play an important role in their son/daughters lives and through being good role models can help to create a positive school environment in which their son/daughter can be valued.

There are 6 important considerations for parent/caregivers:

1. Understand what children want and need from their parent/caregivers,
2. Encourage fairness
3. Keep your emotions in check
4. Respect the staff
5. Respect the law of the land and model this respect
6. Uphold the 'CODE OF CONDUCT'

Understand what Children Want and Need from their Parent/Caregivers

Children want and need boundaries set by their parent/caregivers in much the same way as society needs laws. Children need to know that those boundaries are consistently applied and the consequences of defying the rules are applied, not in anger but fairly. Children also need to know their parent/caregivers support them. Support does not mean parent/caregivers accept everything the child says as truth, but instead it means being committed to helping them identify truth, dispel negative perceptions and work towards solutions.

Encourage Fairness

Children learn fairness from the way they are treated. When children see their parent/caregivers treating others with respect when angry, they learn from example that the way to deal with their anger is to do the same. When they see their parent/ caregivers treat others unfairly, they learn that unfairness is OK as long as you are the one being unfair, not when you are the recipient. Respect, fairness and integrity are encouraged through good role models. Your child will learn to respect other people by seeing you do the same. They'll accept the staff's decisions when they see you value the staff and accept their decisions.

Keep your Emotions in Check

As an adult you should leave the stress and tension of daily life behind when dealing with your son/daughter. Concentrate on the bigger picture and which of YOUR characteristics you most want your child to emulate. If you want your son/daughter to copy your calmness and non-judgemental attitudes, then this is what you need to show them. Outright bad behaviour, such as losing your temper or swearing is totally unacceptable. It will embarrass your son/daughter and sets a poor example.

Respect the Staff

Staff at King Charles play an essential role in providing a positive educational experience for your children. Without them, there would be little or no educational or behavioural progress for your child so they need to be treated with respect and courtesy. King Charles has an 'open door' policy which means you are invited to chat with your class teacher as often as you wish.

Appointments for longer discussions can be made with the class teacher in person or through the school office.

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

**Authorisation:
Review and Monitoring**

This Parent Code of Conduct was agreed by the King Charles Ethos Group on behalf of the Full Governing Board at their meeting on 8th May 2017 and will be reviewed bi-annually.

Authorisation:

Position	Name	Signed	Date
Chair of King Charles Ethos Governors' committee	Michaela Kerridge		8 th May 2017