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**Title of Policy/Procedure** Parents/Carers Code of Conduct

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**Reviewer(s):** Head of HR

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**To be read in conjunction with the following policies:** Staff Code of Conduct and Acceptable Behaviour Policy  
Trust Complaints Procedure

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**Consultation Process** Headteachers

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**Policy Date:** 1 April 2024

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**Review Date:** 1 April 2026

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**This policy has been ratified by:** People and Culture Committee

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Blue Kite Trust schools encourage a supportive and friendly parent/carer body. We recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents/carers, school staff and the local community.

1.2 As a partnership, our parents/carers will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our Trust Schools.

1.3 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 school behaviour policy).

1.4 This code of conduct aims to help the school to 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)

## **2.0 OUR EXPECTATION OF PARENTS**

2.1 We expect parents and other visitors to:

- Approach a senior leader of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern
- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our schools
- 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.

## **3.0 BEHAVIOUR THAT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**

3.1 We do not expect parents and other visitors to demonstrate the following behaviour:

- Disrupting or threatening to disrupt, school events (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Threatening another member of the school community which makes others feel distressed, humiliated, threatened or intimidated
- Threatening violence or acting violently, including damage to property or injury to individuals
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media

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- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
  - Racist, sexist or other discriminatory conduct
  - Frequent, unwarranted and/or unnecessary correspondence which is hindering the proper running of the school
  - Making deliberately false, malicious or vexatious accusations
  - Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
  - Any aggressive or disruptive 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, vaping 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 assistance dogs)
  - Incitement of others to do any of the above.

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour.

3.2 This policy also covers any of the above conducts which are committed:

- In the school buildings or on the school site
- By telephone to the school
- By email to the school
- On social media referring to the school
- In any other setting which, in the reasonable opinion of the headteacher or chair of governors, should be regulated by this policy.

#### **4.0 BREACHING THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

4.1 If a headteacher suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent has breached the code of conduct, the headteacher, or those with delegated responsibility, will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent or visitor about the incident.

4.2 Depending on the nature of the incident, the headteacher may then:

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

4.3 The headteacher 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/deputy headteacher.

4.4 The headteacher will consult the Chair of Governors and the CEO or a member of the Trust leadership team before banning a parent from the school site.

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4.5 The CEO (or representative) and Chair of Governors will assist the headteacher in the decision to reinstate a parent's license to attend the school site as part of a formal review.