



GORING C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOME–SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Policy Approved by the Communications Governor on ...8 July 2019

Signed Chair of Governing Body

Review Date ...July 2021

To conform with the requirements of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) all data is handled according to the terms of our Privacy Notice. A copy of this is available on our school website.

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit (John 15:5)*

At Goring Church of England Primary School we strive to be the best that we can be, to be happy and healthy, and to do good. We cherish our traditional links with the Church, and our Christian values are rooted in everything we do. We believe that we all belong to God's family. Our sense of community encourages kind and respectful behaviour where everyone's contribution is valued, and where diversity and what makes us all individuals are celebrated. We contribute to our global society and we are generous and inclusive in our friendships. Through our partnerships with other schools, the community and the Church we enjoy a range of experiences, enabling us to be successful and giving in our lives ahead.

The purpose of the school is to provide learning and teaching which responds to the unique educational needs of each child. A calm, happy and purposeful working atmosphere is fostered within a caring community. An active partnership is encouraged between children, parents, teachers and governors. High standards are promoted by expecting pupils to work hard and to persevere in all areas of the curriculum. As our Vision Statement above sets out, and through our associated values of *Belong, Believe, Achieve*, we try to provide a warm, caring community where every individual is valued, but also where every individual is expected to grow in responsibility towards others.

Through the life of our school, our acts of worship, our RE and our links with the church we aim to explore the place and significance of religion in human life, and so make a contribution to each child's spiritual development.

The school will aim to:

- be open and welcoming and offer opportunities for you to become involved in its daily life;
- meet the academic and emotional needs of every child in its care;
- provide a broad, balanced curriculum;
- monitor the progress, attendance and punctuality of all children;
- arrange consultation meetings, inform you of progress, set targets and provide an annual written report;
- attempt at all times to achieve high standards of work and behaviour through building good relationships and developing a sense of responsibility;
- set, mark and monitor homework appropriate to the age of your children;
- give weekly updates on class topics via Parentmail and the school's website class pages.

Signed Headteacher.....

Date.....

The parents/carers will aim to:

- support our child(ren)'s work in every way we can including homework and other opportunities for home learning;
- attend meetings to discuss our child(ren)'s progress;
- ensure that our child(ren) wear the correct uniform;
- reply to school correspondence;
- not take our child(ren) out of school during term time unless they are ill other than in exceptional circumstances and then only with the permission of the Headteacher;
- inform the school of any relevant information regarding our child(ren);
- support the school's policies and guidelines for pupil behaviour;
- adhere to the 'Code of Conduct for Parents and Carers' (see Annex 1).

Names

Signature(s)

Date

The pupils

The school would like to share its expectations of the pupils with parents, so both parents and staff can work towards them together.

The school wishes to encourage all pupils to:

- try their best at lessons across all subjects;
- talk at home about what they learn at school;
- do all their home activities;
- try not to miss school and always try to be on time;
- wear their school uniform;
- behave well and keep the school rules;
- be polite and helpful to other pupils and grown-ups;
- always try to enjoy school and help other children to do the same;
- talk to their teacher should they need help or feel unhappy.

These aims will be discussed and reinforced in class, particularly at the beginning of the school year when each class develops its class rules.



GORING C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNEX 1: CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

At Goring Church of England Primary School we are very proud and fortunate to have a dedicated and supportive school community. The staff, governors, parents and carers alike all recognise that the education of our children is a partnership process between all these parties.

As a partnership we are all aware of the importance of good working relationships and recognise the importance of solid working relationships to equip all of our children with the necessary skills for adulthood.

For these reasons we will continue to welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors about the expectations regarding their conduct where school is concerned.

We understand that everyday frustrations can cause misunderstandings and have a negative impact on our relationships. Establishing where this happens, and that we remain committed to resolving difficulties in a constructive manner through open and positive dialogue is, however, essential.

In this way we can continue to flourish and progress to achieve, in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Our school already has a code of conduct for employees but this code is aimed at the wider school community so that all can see and understand the expectations for the behaviour of all visitors or those connected with the school.

This policy is based on an Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) model developed as part of its safeguarding resources, and aims to clarify the types of behaviour that are deemed inappropriate. The policy also sets out the actions the school can take should breaches of the code occur.

Behaviour that is deemed inappropriate

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Behaving in a manner that is perceived as disrespectful, bullying or threatening in any way towards a member of staff, governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil.
- Damaging or destroying school property.

- Sending abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff/governors at the school on Facebook or other sites (see below for more details).
- Being a 'persistent correspondent/complainant'; repetitive, excessive or high-volume communication with the school; or using Freedom of Information requests in a disproportionate or unreasonable manner.
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to chastise or discuss with them their actions towards the parent/carer's child. Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault and could therefore have legal consequences.
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. (Alcohol may be consumed only during authorised events.)
- Dogs (other than guide dogs) being brought on to the school premises.

Should any of the above occur on school premises or in connection with school, the school may feel it is necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities and/or consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises altogether.

Thank you for abiding by this policy in our school. Together we create a positive and uplifting environment not only for the children but also all who work and visit our school.

Parents and carers should ensure that all persons collecting their children are aware of this policy.

What happens if someone ignores or breaks the code?

In the event of any parent/carer or visitor breaking this code then proportionate actions will be taken as follows.

In cases where the unacceptable behaviour is considered to be a serious and potentially criminal matter, the concerns will in the first instance be referred to Thames Valley Police. This will include any or all cases of threats or violence and actual violence to any child, member of staff or governor in the school. This will also include anything that could be seen as a sign of harassment of any member of the school community, such as any form of insulting social media post or any form of social media cyber-bullying. In cases where evidence suggests that behaviour would be tantamount to libel or slander then the school will refer the matter to OCC's Legal Team for further action.

In cases where the code of conduct has been broken but the breach was not libellous, slanderous or a criminal matter, the school will send out a formal letter to the parent/carer with an invite to a meeting. If the parent/carer refuses to attend the meeting then the school will write to them and ask them to stop the behaviour causing the concern and warn that if they do not they may be banned from the school premises. If after this the behaviour continues, the parent/carer will again be written to and informed that a ban is now in place.

Note: (1) a ban from the school can be introduced without having to go through all the steps outlined above in more serious cases. (2) Site bans will normally be limited in the first instance.

Complaints

This code of conduct does not prevent parents/carers from raising a legitimate complaint in an appropriate fashion. In most cases we hope that all complaints and concerns can be resolved through open dialogue with class teachers or other members of staff as appropriate.

Where you are not satisfied with responses received, we would ask that you then follow the procedure as laid out in our Raising Concerns Policy. This is available on the school website but if you would prefer please contact the school office and we can arrange for a hard copy to be made available.

Issues of conduct with the use of social media

There are various online school groups managed by parents for parents, such as class Facebook pages and WhatsApp groups, and they can be a helpful source of knowledge, support and advice. We encourage you to participate in these if you wish. Within these spaces, however, we ask that you use common sense when discussing school life online.

Think before you post

We ask that social media, whether public or private, should not be used to fuel campaigns and voice complaints against the school, staff, governors, parents or pupils.

We take very seriously inappropriate use of social media by a parent to publicly humiliate or criticise another parent, pupil, governor or member of staff.

If parents have any concerns about their child in relation to the school they should:

1. initially contact the class teacher;
2. if the concern remains they should contact the Headteacher;
3. if still unresolved, follow the complaints procedure as set out in the Raising Concerns policy.

They should not use social media as a medium to air any concerns or grievances.

Online activity which we consider inappropriate

- Identifying or posting images/videos of pupils.
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, governors, pupils or other parents.
- Bringing the school into disrepute.
- Posting defamatory or libellous comments.
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff, governors, parents or pupils.
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children.
- Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language.
- Breaching school security procedures.

At our school we take our safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents appropriately in line with the actions outlined above.