

Larmenier & Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

PARENT/CARER CODE OF CONDUCT

Date: June 2021

Next Review: June 2023

Responsibility: Curriculum, Pupils, Parents & Community Committee

1. Purpose and Scope

As a Catholic school, all members of our school community are charged with living out the Mission Statement and for providing the right role model for all pupils. The school is very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent/carer body and it values the positive relationships that are established from the time children start their school life at Larmenier & Sacred Heart. It is recognised that educating children is a process that involves a close partnership between parents/carers, school staff and the whole school community. This includes the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary spiritual, moral and social skills to enable them to become fully responsible members of society.

The school sets 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 & Discipline Policy).

This Code of Conduct aims to help the school work together with parents/carers by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

It is so important that all pupils continue to flourish, make progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding.

2. The School's Expectations of Parents/Carers

The school expects parents/carers and other visitors to:

- › Respect the Catholic ethos 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 an appropriate member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern.

3. Conduct that will Not be Tolerated

The vast majority of parents/carers and visitors to the school are keen to work with and are supportive of the school. However, on the rare occasions when a negative attitude towards the school is expressed, this can result in aggression, verbal and/or physical abuse towards members of our school community.

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

- › Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (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/carers
- › Threatening another member of our school community

- › Sending abusive messages to another member of our school community, including via text (including WhatsApp), email or social media
- › Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school (including commenting on the school's approach or response to specific issues), its staff or any member of our school community, on social media platforms.
- › 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
- › Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)
- › Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- › Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs).

4. Breaching the Code of Conduct

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent/carer has breached the Code of Conduct, it will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent/carer about the incident.

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

- › Send a warning letter to the parent/carer
- › Invite the parent/carer 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 local authority or Diocesan legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- › Ban the parent/carer 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 before banning a parent/carer from the school site.