PARENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose and Scope

At Crook Primary, we believe it's important to:
- Work in partnership with parents/carers to support their child's learning and wellbeing;
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff, parents/carers and visitors;
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times.

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 Behaviour Policy).

This Code of Conduct aims to help the school to work together with parents/carers by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour. We use the term 'parents/carers' to refer to:

Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil;
Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders).

Expectations

To support families, we will offer parents/carers:
- A commitment to working together to help children achieve and thrive;
- A professional response;
- Honest and up to date information regarding pupils;
- A respect for individual family circumstances;
- Clear school policies to guide our practice and support families with any concerns.

To support the school, we encourage parents, carers and visitors to:
- Be committed to working with us to support pupils;
- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- Follow the practices and policies of the school, including addressing any concerns to the appropriate member of staff;
- Respect our school community so that everyone sets a good example to pupils in the way that they speak, act and deal with concerns;

- Manage the behaviour of children to support the school in being as calm and safe as possible.

Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches);
- Swearing or using offensive language;
- Any behaviour/conduct that could be considered offensive, unacceptable or abusive to others, including racist, homophobic or gender specific abuse;
- Threatening a member of the school community;
- Sending abusive messages to a member of the school community, including via text, email or social media;
- Posting offensive or upsetting comments about the school, its staff or any member of the school community, on social media platforms (see below);
- 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;
- Smoking, vaping, drinking alcohol or the use of drugs on the school premises;
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs).

Inappropriate Use of Social Network Sites

Most people take part in online activities and social media. There are online school groups managed by Crook Primary for parents, https://www.facebook.com/crookprimary and they can be a wonderful source of knowledge, support and advice. We encourage you to positively participate if you wish, with respect and courtesy, in accordance with the behaviours outlined above.

Social media is, unfortunately, being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, headteachers, school staff, and, in some cases, other parents or pupils. This is unacceptable to all and will not be tolerated.

We always try to make sure that the school is a happy place but recognise that there might be times when parents/cares have concerns. It is not appropriate or acceptable to share your concerns on Social Media. You are encouraged to raise any issues with a member of staff; if you consider that the issue remains unresolved, then please use the School Complaints Policy.

Malicious posts - in the event that any malicious comments are posted on social media, they will be reported and/or other appropriate action may be taken. Crook Primary School will also require that any such post would be removed immediately.

Cyber Bullying - the school will not tolerate the use of technology to bully others. Any incidents of cyber bullying will be dealt with using the school's anti-bullying policy.

What happens if someone ignores or does not follow this code?

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent/carer has not followed the Code of Conduct, the school will investigate. Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then take one or more of the following steps:

- Write to the people involved;
- Invite the people involved to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher;
- Contact the appropriate authorities, if necessary;
- Seek advice from the Local Authority's legal team;
- Ban those responsible from the school site (site bans will normally be time-limited in the first instance).

School will always contact the police if it is considered or alleged that the law has been broken.

The school will always respond to an incident fairly. The final decision rests with the headteacher, or the Chair of Governors where a complaint may be held against a head teacher.

School requires parents/carers to please ensure they make all persons responsible for collecting their child/young person aware of this code and the requirement to comply with it.

Thank you for following this code. Together we can maintain a positive environment, not only for our children/young people, but also all who work for and visit our school.