



Bacton
Primary School



Cedars Park
Primary School



Mendlesham
Primary School



Stowupland
High School



The John Milton
Sixth Form
AT STOWUPLAND HIGH SCHOOL



MENDLESHAM STOWUPLAND



JOHN MILTON ACADEMY TRUST

Ambition • Aspiration • Excellence

Parent and Visitor Code of Conduct

JMAT 051

History of Document

Issue No.	Author/Owner	Date Written	Review date	Comments
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Definitions: 'Headteacher' also refers to any other title used to identify the headteacher, where appropriate, or other senior manager delegated to deal with the matter by the headteacher.

We use the term 'pupils' to refer to any child or young person in our schools.

At John Milton Academy Trust we value our strong relationships with parents and carers. By working together this helps us to achieve the very best for our learners in a mutually supportive partnership between parents/carers, teaching staff and the school community. We also strive to make our schools a place where as adults we model for students the behaviour we teach and expect.

We highly value parental engagement in children's learning and we know the quality of the home-school relationship is associated with improved academic outcomes at all ages.

1. Purpose and scope

At John Milton Academy Trust, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- 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 our schools 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. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our Trust and schools
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils, helping to resolve an issue in an appropriate manner
- Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with language 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 the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

3. 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
- Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- Threatening another member of the school community
- Physical intimidation, e.g. by standing very close or the use of aggressive hand gestures
- Any kind of insult as an attempt to demean, embarrass or undermine
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the Trust, its schools, staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- 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
- Damaging or destroying Trust or school property
- Smoking or drinking alcohol on the school premises
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than assistance or guide dogs)

4. Breaching the code of conduct

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

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

- Invite the parent/visitor into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Clarify to the parent/visitor what is considered acceptable behaviour
- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Impose conditions on the parent/visitor regarding contact with the school and staff
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the Trust's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent 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 the local board before banning a parent from the school site.

5. Links with other policies

This policy links to the following Trust and/or school policies and procedures:

- Communications Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Vexatious, Persistent and Unacceptable Conduct Policy

Appendix A

Visitor Notice

We strive to ensure that our school is a safe, healthy and pleasant environment for all members of the school community: staff, students and visitors.

We are very happy to deal with any concerns or queries which are presented in an acceptable way.

Please be aware, however, that conduct or communication which is interpreted as abusive, threatening, intimidating or which seeks to undermine staff will not be accepted.

Anyone behaving in this way is likely to be removed from the premises and formal action taken.