

Policy and Procedures For Dealing With Unacceptable Behaviour by Parents and Visitors on the School Premises for Parents and Carers.

Approved By:	Full Governing Body
Date:	
Review Date:	
Signed:	

Policy and Procedures For Dealing With Unacceptable Behaviour by Parents/Carers and Visitors on the School Premises

The Governing Body of Scoill yn Jubilee School actively encourages close links with parents and carers and the community. It believes that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one.

The vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our school are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. From time to time it is necessary for parents and the school to deal with problems relating to particular pupils. It is important that discussions between parents and staff are conducted in a calm and respectful manner. In the vast majority of such situations this is what happens, but on very rare occasions, aggression and verbal and or physical abuse is directed towards members of school staff or members of the wider school community.

The Governing Body expects and requires its members of staff to behave professionally in these difficult situations and attempt to defuse the situation where possible, seeking the involvement of other colleagues when appropriate. However, all members of staff have the right to work without fear of violence and abuse.

Violence, threatening behaviour and abuse against school staff or other members of the school community, including other parents and pupils, will not be tolerated. All members of the school community have a right to expect that their school is a safe place in which to work and learn. There is no place for any form of abuse, threatening behaviour or violence in our school.

We expect parents and other visitors to behave in a reasonable way towards members of school staff and the wider school community at all times. This policy outlines the steps that will be taken where behaviour is unacceptable and contravenes Section 21 of the Education Act 2001. **(Appendix 1)**

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and which will not be tolerated in relation to members of staff, and other members of the community are:

- verbal intimidation, for example shouting or swearing, either in person or over the telephone,
- verbal abuse, for example speaking rudely or making negative personal comments,
- any form of physical contact,
- physical intimidation, eg standing unnecessarily close to a member of staff,
- the use of rude or aggressive hand gestures, including pointing, shaking or holding a fist towards another person,
- spitting,
- breaching the school's security procedures. All visitors to the school must first report to the main reception area.
- constant emails and/or phone calls which amount to harassment and intimidation, despite the school's best efforts to address a situation,
- regularly emailing staff and expecting responses at unreasonable times such as late at night or weekends. Emails sent to the school office JubileeInfantEnquiries@sch.im or JubileeJuniorEnquiries@sch.im will be responded to within one working day wherever possible,
- inappropriate electronic activity including publishing abusive or inappropriate content with regards to the school, teachers or students on social networking websites such as Facebook and Twitter or in email communication.

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour. Whilst the use of such behaviour is unacceptable in all circumstances, the school is particularly concerned to protect its pupils from being exposed to such behaviour (whether or not directed at them).

All incidents of rudeness will be logged with the School's Chair of Governors.

Unacceptable behaviour may result in the police being called or informed of the incident.

Parental/Visitor Access to the School Premises

Normally parents/carers (and those with parental responsibility), plus visitors, have implied permission to visit the grounds and buildings of a school. Where there are serious concerns regarding the conduct of a parent/visitor, and possible staff/pupil safety, the Headteacher can:

- initiate a meeting/dialogue with the individual
- write to the visitor, describing their misconduct, explaining its impact on the school and stating its unacceptability
- vary the person's access to the school, for example, through the addition of conditions
- warn of the possibility of a "ban" if the misconduct is repeated
- impose a ban with a review after a fixed period.

Appendix 1

Section 21 of the Isle Of Man Education Act 2001 contains the following provisions:

“21. Conduct on school and college premises

(1) Any person, not being —

(a) a person employed or appointed or authorised by the Department or the governing body of a provided school, maintained school or special school, or

(b) a registered pupil at the school,

who is present on any school premises and, on being requested by the headteacher to quit the school premises, refuses or fails to do so is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000.

(2) Any person being present on any school premises who —

(a) behaves in a violent, quarrelsome, indecent or disorderly manner on any school premises, or

(b) uses any profane, obscene, indecent or threatening language on such premises, is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000.

(3) All constables are required, on the demand of the head teacher, or some person in his behalf, to expel or assist in expelling from the school premises any person committing or having committed an offence under subsection (1) or (2), and may use such reasonable force as may be required for that purpose.

(4) References in this section to the head teacher of a school include references to a teacher acting as the head teacher.

