

# Parent code of conduct

<b>Audience:</b>	Parents, academy staff, visitors and volunteers
<b>Reviewed:</b> <b>Consulted:</b> <b>Adopted:</b>	May 2022
<b>Other related policies / procedures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children Protection and Safeguarding policy</li> <li>• Anti- bullying policy</li> <li>• Equality and diversity policy</li> <li>• School conduct/ behaviour policy</li> <li>• PREVENT Strategy - HM Gov</li> <li>• Keeping Children Safe in Education - DFE September 2021</li> <li>• Staff, Visitor and Volunteer Code of Conduct</li> <li>• Whistleblowing policy</li> </ul>
<b>Owner</b>	MAT
<b>Policy / procedure model</b>	MAT and school policy: all Crofty schools use this policy

## Contents

1. Purpose and scope	2
2. Our expectations of parents and carers	2
3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated	2/3
4. Breaching the code of conduct	3/4

### 1. Purpose and scope

Crofty Multi Academy Learning Trust has a duty of care for both staff and pupils to ensure their safety and wellbeing. The Trust will not tolerate parent/carer or visitor behaviour that is unacceptable and has a detrimental effect on the good order and safety of its schools. This policy outlines the behaviours that are unacceptable and what sanctions are available to deal with such behaviour.

At Crofty, we believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents/carers 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 school behaviour policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school to 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**

We expect parents and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our schools
- 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 a senior leader 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 which makes others feel distressed, humiliated, threatened or intimidated
- Threatening violence or acting violently, including damage to property or injury to individuals
- 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 school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Racist, sexist or other discriminatory conduct
- Frequent, unwarranted and/or unnecessary correspondence which is hindering the proper running of the school
- Making deliberately false, malicious or vexatious accusations
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- Any aggressive or disruptive 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 or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)

- Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)
- Incitement of others to do any of the above

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour.

This policy also covers any of the above conducts which are committed:

- In the school buildings or on the school site
- By telephone to the school
- By email to the school
- On social media referring to the school
- In any other setting which, in the reasonable opinion of the headteacher or chair of governors, should be regulated by this policy.

#### **4. Breaching the code of conduct**

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

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

- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Send a warning letter to the parent or visitor
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from our legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site; revoke their licence to attend the premises

The Headteacher 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 or in their absence, the Director of education, Crofty Multi Academy Learning Trust.

The Headteacher will consult the Chair of Governors and a member of the Crofty Multi Academy Trust senior leadership team before banning a parent from the school site. A report of incidents and outcomes will be made to the governing body every half term. The governing body will assist the Headteacher in the decision to reinstate a parent's licence to attend the school site as part of a formal review. The Headteacher will communicate by letter to the parent or visitor.

A report of non-physical abuse will be collated and shared with the Academy Trustees.

This policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner in the light of changing circumstances.

