



Inspiring Primaries Academy Trust

Inspiring all to flourish and succeed

Parent code of conduct

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Contents

1. Purpose and scope.....	2
2. Our expectations of parents and carers.....	2
3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated.....	3
4. Breaching the code of conduct.....	3
Appendix 1: model incident report form.....	5
Appendix 2: model letters.....	8
Initial warning letter from the headteacher.....	8
Appendix 3.....	9
Model letter banning a parent from the school site.....	9
Appendix 4.....	10
Model letter banning a member of the public from the school site.....	10
Appendix 5.....	11
Model letter banning a parent from the school site	11
Appendix 6.....	12
Model letter banning a parent from the school site	12
Appendix 7.....	13
Model letter removing a ban from the school site	13
Appendix 8.....	14
Model letter removing a ban from the school site	14

1. Purpose and scope

At Inspiring Primaries 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 the Trust's 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
- 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 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
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- Talking to other parents or staff members about a member of the school community in a derogatory manner
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its 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
- 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).

4. Breaching the code of conduct

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

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

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of the Trust's staff or the headteacher/head of school
- 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

The Trust 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 Trust CEO.

The headteacher/head of school will consult the CEO and/or the chair of trustees as well as the chair of the LGB before banning a parent from the school site.

Appendix 1: model incident report form

- Remove the model incident report form and these model letters before sharing the code of conduct with parents or if linked on the website

This includes trespass, nuisance or disturbance on school premises, verbal abuse, sexual or racial abuse, threats, aggression, physical violence and intentional damage to personal property.

This form should be completed as fully as possible (please use a continuation sheet if necessary). For an incident involving or witnessed by a pupil, a member of staff should complete the form on their behalf. However, any discussion between one witness and another should not precede completion of the form, as this might lead to allegations of collusion.

Date of incident	
Day of week	
Time	
1. Member of staff reporting incident	
Name	
Work address (if different from school address)	
Position	
2. Personal details of person assaulted/verbally abused (if appropriate)	
Name	
Work address (if different from school address)/home address (if pupil)	
Job/Position (if member of staff)	
Class	

Age	
Sex	
3. Details of trespasser/assailant(s) (if known)	
4. Witness(es) if any	
Name	
Address	
Age (approx)	
Sex	
Other information	
Relationship between member of staff/pupil and trespasser/assailant, if any	
5. Details of incident	
a) Type of incident (eg. if trespass, was the trespasser causing a nuisance or disturbance and how; if assault, give details of any injury suffered, treatment received etc)	
b) Location of incident (attach sketch if appropriate)	

c) Other details: describe incident, including, where relevant, events leading up to it; relevant details of trespasser/assailant not given above; if a weapon was involved, who else was present	
6. Outcome: (eg. whether police called; whether trespasser was removed from premises under section 547; whether parents contacted; what happened after the incident; any legal action)	
7. Other information (to be completed as appropriate)	
a) Possible contributory factors	
b) Is trespasser/assailant known to have been involved in any previous incidents YES/NO	
c) Give date and brief details of (b) if known	
d) Had any measures been taken to try to prevent an incident of this type occurring? If so, what? Could they be improved?	
e) If no measures had been taken beforehand, could action now be taken? If so, what?	
f) Name and contact details of police officer involved, and incident number or crime reference number, as appropriate	
g) Any other relevant information	
Signed:	Date:

Please return as soon as possible to	

Appendix 2: model letters

Initial warning letter from the headteacher

Dear [parent name],

I've received a report about your conduct on [time and date].

[Summary of incident, including location, and the effect on staff, pupils and other parents.]

If the incident is minor, add:

This behaviour is not in keeping with our parent code of conduct. [Please find a copy attached to this letter.]

If the incident is more serious, add:

As written in our parent code of conduct, we do not tolerate this kind of behaviour in our school. [Please find a copy attached to this letter.]

We believe that all staff, pupils and parents are entitled to a safe, respectful and inclusive environment, and that parents are as responsible for creating this environment as school staff.

Continue with:

Further breaches of the code of conduct may result in a ban from the school premises.

If you want to invite the parent in for a meeting, add:

I'd like to invite you in to school to discuss this incident, and how we can work together to prevent similar issues in the future.

Please contact the school office on [phone number] to book an appointment.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher/Head of School

Appendix 3

Model letter banning a parent from the school site

RECORDED DELIVERY

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have received a report from the headteacher at (insert name) School about your conduct on (enter date and time).

[Add summary of the incident and of its effect on staff, pupils, other parents.]

I must inform you that the Trust will not tolerate conduct of this nature on its premises and will act to defend its staff and pupils. On the advice of the headteacher I am therefore instructing that (for a temporary period) you are not to reappear on the premises of the School. If you do not comply with this instruction I shall arrange for you to be removed from the premises and prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996. If convicted under this section, you are liable to a fine of up to £500.

For the duration of this decision you may bring your son(s)/daughter(s) (complete as appropriate) to school and collect them/him/her (delete as appropriate) at the end of the school day, but you must not go beyond the school gate.

(In the case of infant children, also insert) Arrangements have been made for your (delete as appropriate) son(s)/daughter(s) (insert child/rens names) to be collected, and returned to you, at the school gate by a member of the School's staff.

The withdrawal of permission for you to enter the school premises takes effect straightaway. However, I still need to decide whether it is appropriate to confirm this decision. Before I do so, I wish to give you an opportunity to give me in writing any comments or observations of your own in relation to the report which I have received from the headteacher. These comments may include any expressions of regret on your part and any assurances you are prepared to give about your future good conduct. To enable me to take a decision on this matter at an early point, you are asked to send me any written comments you wish to make by (state date ten working days from the date of letter).

If on receipt of your comments I consider that my decision should be confirmed, you will be supplied with details of how to pursue a review of the circumstances of your case.

Yours faithfully,

BAN LETTER-1

Letter to Parent with child/ren at the school

Appendix 4

Model letter banning a member of the public from the school site

RECORDED DELIVERY

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have received a report from the headteacher at (insert name) School about your conduct on (enter date and time).

[Add summary of the incident and of its effect on staff, pupils, other parents.]

I must inform you that the Trust will not tolerate conduct of this nature on its premises and will act to defend its staff and pupils. On the advice of the headteacher I am therefore instructing that you are not to reappear on the premises of the School. If you do not comply with this instruction I shall arrange for you to be removed from the premises and prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996. If convicted, you are liable to a fine of up to £500.

Yours faithfully,

BAN LETTER-1(a)

Letter to member of the public

Appendix 5

Model letter banning a parent from the school site

RECORDED DELIVERY

Dear Sir/Madam,

On (give date) I wrote to you informing you that on the advice of the headteacher, I had withdrawn permission for you to come onto the premises of (insert name) School. To enable the Trust to determine whether to confirm this decision for a longer period, I gave you the opportunity to give your written comments on the incident concerned by (give date).

I have not received a written response from you / I have now received a letter from you dated insert date, the contents of which I have noted. (delete either sentence as appropriate).

In the circumstances, and after further consideration of the headteacher's report, I have determined that the decision to withdraw permission for you to come onto school premises should be confirmed. I am therefore instructing that until further notice you are not to come onto the premises of the School without the prior knowledge and approval of the headteacher. If you do not comply with this instruction I shall arrange for you to be removed from the premises and prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996. If convicted, you are liable to a fine of up to £500.

Notwithstanding this decision the headteacher and staff at (insert name) School remain committed to the education of your child/children (delete as appropriate), who must continue to attend school as normal under the arrangements set out in my previous letter.

The Trust will take steps to review the continuance of this decision on (give date). When deciding whether it is necessary to extend the withdrawal of permission to come onto the School's premises, the Trust will take into account the extent of your compliance with the decision, any appropriate expressions of regret and assurance of future good conduct received from yourself and any evidence of your co-operation with the School in other respects.

[Include where the incident has arisen within the context of a parental complaint against the School:]

Finally I would advise you that I have asked the headteacher to ensure that your complaint that (give brief details) is considered under the appropriate stage of the School's parental complaints procedure. You will be contacted about this by the School in due course.

If you wish to pursue the matter further, you have a right to a review of the circumstances of this case by contacting ... (complete as appropriate).

Yours faithfully,

BAN LETTER 2

Letter to parent with child/ren at the school

Appendix 6

Model letter banning a parent from the school site

RECORDED DELIVERY

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wrote to you on (give date) withdrawing permission for you to come onto the premises of (insert name) School until further notice. In that letter I also advised you that I would take steps to review this decision on (give date).

I have now completed the review. However, after consultation with the headteacher, I have determined that it is not yet appropriate for me to withdraw my decision. (Give a brief summary of reasons.)

I therefore advise that the instruction that you are not to come onto the premises of (insert name) School without the prior knowledge and approval of the headteacher remains in place until further notice.

I shall undertake a further review of this decision on (give date) .

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you have a right to complain to the chair of the Trust Board.

Yours faithfully,

BAN LETTER 3

Letter to parent with child/ren at the school

Appendix 7

Model letter removing a ban from the school site

RECORDED DELIVERY

Dear Sir/Madam,

On (insert date) I wrote to you informing you that, on the advice of the headteacher, I had temporarily withdrawn permission for you to come onto the premises of (insert name) School. To enable me to determine whether to confirm this decision for a longer period, I gave you the opportunity to let me have your written comments on this incident by (insert date).

I have not received a written response from you / I have now received a letter from you dated (insert date), the contents of which I have noted. (delete either sentence as appropriate).

[However] In the circumstances, and after consulting with the headteacher, I have decided that it is not necessary to confirm the decision, and I am therefore restoring to you the permission to come onto the school premises, with immediate effect.

Nevertheless I remain very concerned at the incident which occurred on (insert date), and I must warn you that if there is any repetition of your behaviour on that occasion, I shall not hesitate to withdraw permission for you to come onto the premises again.

Yours faithfully,

UNBAN LETTER 1

Appendix 8

Model letter removing a ban from the school site

RECORDED DELIVERY

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wrote to you on (give date) informing you that I had withdrawn permission for you to come onto the premises of (insert name) School until further notice. In that letter I also advised you that I would take steps to review this decision on (give date).

I have now completed the review. After consultation with the headteacher, I have decided that it is now appropriate to change that decision and I am therefore restoring to you the permission to come onto the school premises, with immediate effect.

I trust that you can now be relied upon to act in full co-operation with the School and that there will be no further difficulties of the kind which made it necessary for me to prevent you entering the premises.

I should point out that if there is any repetition of your behaviour, I shall not hesitate to withdraw permission for you to come onto the premises again.

Yours faithfully,

Depending on who signed original banning letter.

UNBAN LETTER 2