



Lowercroft Primary School

School Community Code of Conduct

Approved by:	Headteacher
Last Reviewed:	February 2025
Next Review Date:	February 2029

Statement of Intent

At Lowercroft Primary School, we strive to build a strong relationship with parents to help create a stimulating learning environment that continues from school to home, providing all pupils with the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

To create a welcoming and safe learning environment, the school implements a specifically designed set of rules regarding behaviour and conduct, which parents are expected to follow. All staff members have the right to work without fear of violence or abuse. Therefore, physical attacks, threatening behaviour, and abusive or insulting language towards staff members, governors, visitors, pupils, or other parents may result in individuals being removed from the premises.

This document outlines the manner in which parents are expected to act while on school premises and details the types of behaviour that will not be tolerated.

1. Legal Framework

This document has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance, including but not limited to the following:

- Education Act 2011
- Education Act 1996
- Children Act 2004
- DfE (2023) *Keeping Children Safe in Education*
- DfE (2018) *Controlling Access to School Premises*

This document operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Communications Policy

Parents can request copies of all relevant policies and procedures from the school office.

2. Expectations

We expect parents, carers, and visitors to:

- Support and reflect the school's ethos and values (Empathy, Respect, Independence, Curiosity, Courage) through their behaviour.
- Understand that teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children.
- Demonstrate that all members of the school community should be treated with respect and set a good example through their speech and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view to bring about a peaceful resolution.
- Correct their own child's behaviour, especially in public, where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour, or unsafe situations.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern.
- Follow the Highway Code and show respect to the school's neighbours when dropping off and collecting pupils from school.

3. Driving Pupils to School

- Parents will park only where road markings allow.
- Residents' driveways must not be blocked under any circumstances, even for short periods.
- Vehicles should be driven calmly to minimise disturbance to residents and maintain pedestrian safety.
- Engines should be turned off when stationary to reduce harmful emissions.
- All pupils must wear seatbelts at all times while being dropped off or picked up.
- Parents should ensure pupils disembark safely and cross roads with care.
- During severe weather, parents should use their discretion and drive with extra caution.

- Pupils must not be collected late; all pupils are expected to be collected between 3:10 pm and 3:20 pm, depending on their class. If delayed, parents must arrange for an authorised adult to collect the pupil.
- Parents unable to arrange alternative collection should inform the school as soon as possible.

4. Unacceptable Behaviour

To maintain a peaceful and safe school environment, the following behaviour will not be tolerated:

- Abusive or threatening emails, text messages, or other written communication.
- Disruptive behaviour that interferes with school operations or events.
- Racist or sexual comments.
- Loud, offensive language, swearing, or displaying temper.
- Threatening to cause harm to a member of the school community.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Physical intimidation.
- Psychological harassment or vexatious behaviour that humiliates or damages self-esteem.
- Approaching another parent or pupil to discuss or reprimand them.
- Taking photographs or videos on school premises without permission.
- Posting defamatory, offensive, or derogatory comments about the school, staff, pupils, or other parents on social media.
- Using physical aggression towards another adult or child.
- Approaching someone else's child to discuss or chastise them.
- Smoking, drinking alcohol, or using drugs on school property unless during licensed activities.

- Driving unsafely within the vicinity of the school.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises, the school may contact the appropriate authorities and, if necessary, ban the offending individual from the premises.

5. Inappropriate Use of Parent WhatsApp Groups

Parent WhatsApp groups can be valuable for sharing information and supporting communication. However, misuse of these platforms can create unnecessary stress and anxiety for staff, ultimately affecting their well-being. The school discourages using WhatsApp or social media to spread unverified information, criticise staff, or fuel negativity.

Parents are reminded of the following expectations regarding WhatsApp and social media usage:

- Do not use WhatsApp groups to discuss individual concerns about a child's progress, school policies, or staff performance. Address these directly with the relevant teacher or headteacher.
- Avoid sharing unverified information that may cause confusion.
- Refrain from posting negative or defamatory comments about school staff, parents, or pupils.
- Be respectful and constructive in communication.

The school will take action to address inappropriate use of WhatsApp or other social platforms when it affects the school community. In serious cases, this may include barring a parent from the premises or involving legal authorities.

6. Managing Inappropriate Behaviour

If a parent behaves inappropriately, a report will be made to the headteacher or the most senior member of staff available. The school will determine the most appropriate course of action, which may include:

- Inviting the parent to a meeting to discuss and resolve the issue.
- Barring the parent from the premises.

- Contacting the police.
- Seeking legal redress through the courts.
- Restricting the parent's communication channels with the school.
- Reporting online content to website administrators.
- Referring the case to children's social care if there are safeguarding concerns.

The school reserves the right to escort individuals off the premises if they display aggressive or disruptive behaviour. The police will be contacted where necessary.

7. Barring from the School Premises

The school has the right to bar a parent from the premises to ensure the safety of the school community. This may be temporary or permanent, depending on the severity of the behaviour.

The headteacher will inform the parent in writing, explaining:

- The reason for the bar.
- The nature of the bar (temporary or pending representation).
- The parent's right to formally express their views in writing to the Chair of Governors within 10 working days.

The decision will be reviewed by the Chair of Governors. The parent will be informed in writing whether the bar will be upheld or lifted.

8. Monitoring and Review

This document will be reviewed every four years by the headteacher, with any changes communicated to parents and staff. The next scheduled review date is February 2029.

All parents will receive a copy of this Code of Conduct upon their child's attendance at the school and are required to familiarise themselves with it.

Appendix 1: Inappropriate Use of Social Networking Sites

Social media websites are increasingly being used to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, headteachers, staff, and sometimes other parents or pupils. This behaviour is considered unacceptable and not in the best interests of the school community.

Any concerns must be raised through appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, headteacher, or Chair of Governors. (Refer to the 'Communications Policy for who to contact)

In the event that a student or parent is found posting defamatory comments online, the school will take action, which may include reporting to the social media platform or taking legal action. Serious cases of cyberbullying will be treated as incidents of school bullying and addressed accordingly.

Parents are expected to ensure that all persons responsible for collecting children are aware of this policy.

Persons Causing Nuisance / Disturbance on School Premises

Under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996, it is an offence for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The school may call the police to assist in removing individuals where necessary. In such cases, parents will need to make alternative arrangements for bringing children to school.

Appendix 2: Code of Conduct Agreement



Parent Code of Conduct Agreement

I _____ (name), parent of _____ (name of child),
declare that I have received, read, and understood the terms of this Code of Conduct.

I understand my obligations under this Code of Conduct and agree to comply fully with them. I
will ensure that my conduct does not breach this Code in any way, including but not limited to:

- Being abusive or threatening to any member of the school community.
- Dressing inappropriately.
- Behaving aggressively or inappropriately, including on social media platforms.
- Being discriminatory towards any member of the school community.
- Trespassing on school property.
- Smoking, drinking alcohol, or taking illegal substances on school premises.
- Sending inappropriate messages to staff.
- Requesting to follow or friend staff on social media.

Signed: _____

Date: _____
