

Viking Academy Trust



Parent & Carers Code of Conduct

The VIKING ACADEMY TRUST 'Parent & Carers Code of Conduct' Policy has been written after consultation with all stakeholders. Please see Zero Tolerance Statement & Home Learning Agreement alongside this policy.

Approved by the Trust: Term 4 2017

Reviewed biennial: Term 6

Last review date: Term 1 2026

Signed:

Chair of Trust

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Parent & Carers Code of Conduct Policy

The Viking Academy Trust

Empowering Children Through Education: One Childhood One Chance

Schools in the Viking Academy Trust (VAT)

These are:

Chilton Primary School
Ramsgate Arts Primary School
Upton Junior School

This '**Parent Code of Conduct**' Policy is for all aforementioned schools.

Parent & Carers Code of Conduct Policy

"We cannot accomplish all that we need to do without working together."

Introduction:

At the Viking Academy Trust, we are very fortunate to have supportive and friendly parent bodies in each of our Viking schools. Our parents recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between parents, class teachers and the school community. As a partnership, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our schools about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Parents and Carers are expected to abide by the procedures in place in the understanding these are for the protection of all members of the Viking community.

Please also read the VAT Zero Tolerance Statement (Appendix 1)

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and other family members to:-

- Respect and support the school's ethos, values and policies, including those relating to behaviour, safeguarding, equality and inclusion.
- Treat all members of the school community with respect, courtesy and consideration at all times
- Understand that both 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 therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct their own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern, including raising complaints through the appropriate channels and procedures
- Avoid engaging in gossip, rumour or negative commentary about the school, staff or pupils, particularly on social media or in public forums.
- Avoid using staff as threats to admonish children's behaviour.

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate the following from parents and carers and members of the wider community:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any area of the school grounds (this includes when attending a team match / school event).
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane or discriminatory language or displaying temper.
- Threatening, intimidating or aggressive behaviour towards staff, pupils or other parents/carers.
- Unfounded continual criticism of a member of staff after an issue has been raised and addressed.
- Behaviour considered harassment, sexual or otherwise. Any such behaviours will be logged by the school and will be reported to the Police.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Governor, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff, at the school or within the school grounds to other parents.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff, at the school on social media sites and digital platforms
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of, the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences).
- Smoking (including e-cigarettes and vapes) and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought on to school premises, with the exception of Guide Dogs.

- The school will not tolerate any behaviour that compromises the safety, wellbeing or dignity of any member of the school.
- Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises, the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the school site.

Digital and Social Media Conduct

The use of digital communication and social media is an important part of modern life but it can also present challenges in maintaining respectful and constructive relationships. Parents and carers are expected to:

- Use social media responsibly and refrain from posting anything that could damage the reputation of the school, staff or other parents/carers
- Avoid using social media or messaging platforms to raise concerns, air grievances or engage in negative discussion about the school and its community
- Respect privacy and confidentiality and not share images or information without explicit consent
- Only communicate with staff and the school through official channels
- Report any concerns regarding online behaviours to the school without delay
- Use the complaint procedure to raise issues with the school appropriately

Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Head of School, Executive Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our Viking schools with the implementation of this policy and we thank you for your continuing support.

Other Documenta Relevant to this Policy:

- VAT Complaints Procedure
- VAT Vexatious, Serial or Persistent Complaints Policy



VAT Zero Tolerance – Abusive or Aggressive Behaviour

Our staff come to work to educate and care for children and it is important for all members of the Viking community: children, parents, family members and staff to ensure that our staff are treated with **courtesy and respect**.

Zero Tolerance

We aim to treat everybody courteously at all times and expect our parents and visitors to the school, to treat our staff in a similarly respectful way. We take seriously any threatening, abusive or violent behaviour against any of our staff.

In line with schools across the Viking Academy Trust, to ensure this is fully observed, we have a **Parent Code of Conduct Policy** whereby aggressive or violent behaviour towards our staff will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Anyone giving verbal abuse to members of staff, either in person or over the telephone, will receive a letter from the Executive Headteacher, advising that this behaviour will not be tolerated. Any future violation of this policy will result in the person barred from our premises and communication via the telephone/email monitored closely to ensure a respectful tone. There will be no appeal process.

We feel sure that you will understand that proper behaviour and conduct are absolutely necessary for our children and staff and that non-observance will not be accepted.