



## PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

At Little Willows Pre-School, we seek to build effective partnerships with parents and carers and the wider pre-school community. We acknowledge that parents and carers are a child's first educator and together we endeavour to model good working relationships which benefit the children that attend.

As partners, 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 pre-school.

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

### GUIDANCE

#### **We expect parents, carers and visitors to:**

- Respect and model the caring ethos of our pre-school whenever on school premises or when communicating directly with the pre-school.
- Understand that pre-school staff and parents need to work together for the benefit of **all**.
- Demonstrate that **all** members of the pre-school community should be treated with tolerance and respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech, conduct and behaviour.
- Seek to clarify a child's version of events with the pre-school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue.
- Correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour.
- Approach the right member of pre-school staff to help resolve any issues or concern e.g. caterpillar/butterfly lead, manager.

**In order to support a peaceful and safe pre-school environment, the pre-school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:**

- Disturbing pre-school staff and trying to speak to them whilst they are supervising children.
- Attempts to gain entry to any part of the pre-school in disregard of procedure or without permission and appropriate supervision.
- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of the setting.
- Using loud/or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper.
- Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of pre-school staff, Trustee, visitor, fellow parent/carer or child regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying pre-school property.
- Abusive, persistent or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication.
- Defamatory, offensive, or derogatory comments regarding the pre-school or any of the children/parents/staff at the pre-school on social mediate.
- Any concerns that you may have about the pre-school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the child's teacher, the Manager, or the Chair of Trustees, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately, and effectively for all concerned.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on pre-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 and consumption of alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.
- Dogs being brought onto site (other than Guide Dogs).

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on pre-school premises, the parent/carer will be asked to leave the premises voluntarily. Failing this the pre-school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, even ban the offending adult from entering the pre-school premises.

We trust that parents and carers will assist our pre-school with the implementation of this code of conduct and we thank you for your continuing support.

#### INAPPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools or to share inappropriate information e.g. making allegations or accusations or sharing false news. Little Willows Pre-School considers the use of social media websites or apps in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the pre-school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the child's teacher, the senior practitioner or the Manager so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at Little Willows Pre-School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on social media, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The pre-school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the pre-school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by a parent/carer to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare. We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

Revised: January 2023