



Parent Code of Conduct

Reviewed: **March 2024**

Reviewed by: **Headteacher / SLT / Governors**

Date to be reviewed: **March 2026**



East Peckham Primary School, 130, Pound Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, TN12 5LH

Purpose and scope

At East Peckham Primary we believe it is 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 for Learning policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school 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)

Our expectations of parents and carers:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- 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

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
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms, even if not directly named
- 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 on the school premises (including legal highs)
- Arriving and accessing site under the influence of drugs or alcohol

Breaching the code of conduct

If the school 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:

- Invite the parent in to school to meet with 2 members of the senior leadership team.
- Send a warning letter to the parent
 - This letter may be sent by any member of the school's senior leadership team, with approval from the Headteacher.
 - If a parent feels this action is inappropriate then they may respond in accordance with the School's 'Complaints Policy and Procedure'.
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from the local authority's legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the school site, in accordance with advice from [Gov.UK](https://www.gov.uk):
 - Schools are private property. People do not have an automatic right to enter. Parents have an 'implied licence' to come on to school premises at certain times. Anyone who breaks those rules would be trespassing.
 - Trespassing is a civil offence. This means that schools can ask someone to leave and take civil action in the courts if someone trespasses regularly.
 - Schools can bar someone from the premises if they feel that their aggressive, abusive or insulting behaviour or language is a risk to staff or pupils. It's enough for a member of staff or a pupil to feel threatened.
 - The school will tell an individual that they've been barred or that they intend to bar them, in writing. Letters will be signed by the Headteacher and the bar takes effect immediately.
 - The individual can present their side to the Governing Body, but the bar remains in place until the representation has been reviewed. This is likely to be at the next Governing Body meeting. Governing Body meetings usually take place termly.
 - After the individual's side has been heard, the school can decide whether to continue with barring them.
 - Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a person who is on school premises without legal permission to cause or permit a nuisance or disturbance. Trespassing itself does not constitute a criminal offence. To have committed a criminal offence, an abusive individual must have been barred from the premises or have exceeded their 'implied licence', then also have caused a nuisance or disturbance.
 - If a school has reasonable grounds to suspect that someone has committed an offence, then they can be removed from the school by a police officer or a person authorised by the appropriate authority such as the:
 - governing board
 - local authority

The school 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 chair of governors who will consult with the headteacher.