**St Augustine’s Catholic Primary School**

**A Voluntary Academy**

**Parent Code of Conduct**

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| Name of School  | St Augustine’s Catholic Primary School  |
| Address and Postcode  | Conwy Court, Castlefields, Runcorn WA7 2JJ |
| Phone Number  | 01928 568936 |
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| Weblink for this policy  | <https://www.st-augustines.halton.sch.uk/policies/>  |
| Name of Policy  | Parent Code of Conduct  |
| Policy version number  | One  |
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| Date policy becomes effective  | September 2020 |
| Review date | September 2022 |
| Signed - Headteacher  |  |
| Signed – Chair of governing body  |  |

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* **1. Purpose and scope**

At St Augustine’s Catholic Primary School and Nursery, 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 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, child-minders or anyone collecting/dropping off your child)

* **2. Our expectations of parents and carers**

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

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

* **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

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

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 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:

Send a warning letter to the parent

Invite the parent in to school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher

Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)

Seek legal advice regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)

Ban the parent from the school site

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 headteacher.

The headteacher will consult the chair of governors before banning a parent from the school site.

* **Appendix 1: model letters**
* **Initial warning letter from the headteacher**

Consider removing these model letters before sharing the code of conduct with parents or if you decide to link to it on your website

Dear [parent name],

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

[Summary of incident, include location, its 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

* **Model letter banning a parent from the school site**

Dear [parent name],

I am writing to inform you that, after consultation with the chair of governors, I am banning you from the school site until [date].

You can also choose to ban a parent permanently. In that case, amend the sentence above.

Despite previous correspondence and conversations about your conduct, there have been further breaches of our parent code of conduct.

[Include details of the incidents, including dates, locations and effects on staff/pupils/other parents for every relevant incident.]

If you do not comply with the ban, I will arrange for you to be removed from the grounds and you may be prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996.

If you would like to raise a complaint, you can do so using the school’s complaints procedures, which are available on our website.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

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