



**Aletheia**  
Academies Trust

# Parent Code of Conduct

## October 2022

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# 1. Purpose and scope

At Aletheia Academies Trust, we believe that 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 Policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the schoolwork together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to and include:

- ▶ Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- ▶ Anyone caring for a child ( for example grandparents or child-minders)

## 2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents 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 events (including events on the school grounds, sport team matches and other school trips either at the school or at other locations)
- ▶ Swearing, or using offensive language
- ▶ Displaying anger or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- ▶ Threatening a member of the school community
- ▶ Sending abusive messages to a 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 or in other ways
- ▶ 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 (including legal highs)
- ▶ Bringing dogs on to the school premises (other than Guide and Therapy dogs)

### 4. Breaching the code of conduct

If the school within the academy 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 into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- ▶ Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- ▶ Seek advice regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- ▶ Withdraw the right for the parent to be on school premises

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision on how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the headteacher.

- ▶ The headteacher will consult the Chair of Governors before withdrawing the right for the parent to be on school premises

# Appendix 1: Model letters

## Initial warning letter from the headteacher

Dear [parent name],

I have 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 the AAT published Parent Code of Conduct. [Please find a copy attached to this letter.]

If the incident is more serious, add:

As stated 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 the school withdrawing the right for the parent to be on school premises

If you want to invite the parent in for a meeting, add:

I should 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 - Withdraw the right for the parent to be on school premises

Dear [parent name],

I am writing to inform you that, after consultation with the chair of governors, I am withdrawing your right to be on school premises until: [DATE]

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