

# The Federation of St Bede's and St Bernadette Catholic Schools



**WE LEARN, WE PLAY, WE CARE, WE PRAY**

## **Policy on Dealing with Unacceptable Behaviour by Parents and Visitors on School Premises**

**Last review: May 2018**

**Next review: May 2021**

### **FEDERATION VISION**

Our vision is to provide all children with the best possible education, guided by the foundations of the Catholic faith, which develops their potential, prepares them for the future and inspires lifelong learning.



## **Policy for Dealing with Unacceptable Behaviour by Parents and Visitors on School Premises**

At St Bede's Catholic Infant and Nursery School, we value the positive relationships forged with our Parents, Carers and visitors to the school.

### **Promoting Positive Behaviours**

We strive to make our school a place where we model for children the Christian behaviour we teach and expect, as outlined in our Core Values – we are respectful, we are responsible, we are resilient, we are reflective and everyone matters. As a school centred on these Christian values, we promote respect for all with whom we work, and celebrate differences in a positive manner. We place a high importance on good manners and positive communication, founded on mutual respect.

The school community is clear about actions which will be taken if instances of unacceptable behaviour occur, including verbal or physical threats to or assaults on staff.

Being on the receiving end of any unacceptable behaviour or act of aggression (verbal or physical) will not ever be regarded by school staff as acceptable.

In cases of unacceptable behaviour, verbal abuse, or harassment, a judgement will be made as to the appropriate level of action required. In most instances, if a child or member of staff is upset by the unacceptable behaviours of another, the situation can be resolved satisfactorily through mediation without the need for any further action.

### **Behaviour that will not be tolerated:**

Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the schools' normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.

Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises.

Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.

Threatening in any way, a member of staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or child.

Damaging or destroying school property.

Sending abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to anyone within the school community.

Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff/governors at the school on Facebook or other sites

The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment of 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, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorised events)

Dogs being brought on to the school premises (other than guide dogs)

Should **any** of the above occur on school premises or in connection with school the school may feel it is necessary to take action by contacting the appropriate authorities or consider banning the offending adult from entering the school premises.



## **Implications for Serious Incidents**

Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 makes it an offence for any person to be on school premises to cause or permit a nuisance or disturbance and allows for the removal and prosecution of any person believed to have committed an offence.

A parent or visitor normally has implied permission to be on school premises at certain times and for certain purposes, but if the parent's or visitor's behaviour is unreasonable, this permission may be withdrawn and the parent or visitor will be asked to leave the school site.

The Governing Body, in conjunction with the Headteacher and Lambeth Council, will take the lead in authorising the removal of a person believed to be causing a nuisance or disturbance, and, if necessary, will bring legal proceedings against them.

If it is felt that if an individual is likely to cause further threats or harm to staff, an immediate temporary ban would be imposed for a specified period, with an opportunity given to explain, after which a decision would be taken whether to remove or extend the ban.

The individual would be advised in writing that following the incident of unacceptable behaviour, a ban is being considered and they would be given an opportunity to explain their actions, after which a decision would be made about imposing the ban.

If after a ban has been imposed, the individual comes on to school premises, the police would be called immediately. The Governing Body would then decide, in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Southwark and the school's legal advisors whether to consider taking out a Court Injunction preventing this from happening again.

[To be read alongside Lambeth Council's policy "Assaults, Threats or Verbal Abuse - Guidance for Staff".]