



# White Mere Community Primary School Family Agreement

## A guide to supporting you and your child successfully through school

At White Mere Community Primary School we are committed to mutually respectful supportive relationships between families and staff built upon clear communication with the needs of our pupils at heart.

As a partnership, our families will understand the importance of productive working relationships to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we always welcome and encourage families to participate fully in the life of our school to make White Mere and the surrounding area the best community it can be.

This guide outlines the expectations that apply to all families in our school. The aim is to provide you with a framework that sets out the expected conduct and helps prevent misunderstandings or any situations escalating beyond repair so pupils, families and staff can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

### 1. Our essentials:

- ✓ Make sure your child has the **highest possible attendance** they can have. Your child arrives to school on time and is picked up promptly. Always let us know if you are running late or if your child is going home with someone else (0191 4385008).
- ✓ Complete any **personal contact and medical forms** fully and inform us straight away if anything changes.
- ✓ Complete all **online consent for visits** and make any **lunch or visit payments** promptly.
- ✓ Make sure your child has the right clothing for any activity they are involved in and they **follow our uniform policy** (see the school website for more information).
- ✓ Maintain a **good relationship with your child's class teacher** and attend parent consultations, workshops or school events wherever possible or re-arrange if necessary to share information about your child's development.
- ✓ **Support the academic progress of your child** by encouraging them to continue their learning with anything set or signposted by school. This may be phonics practice, regular reading, number fact practice (times tables), spellings or further learning from wider curriculum subjects.
- ✓ **Talk to us** if you have any concerns about any part of your child's education and development – we want to hear from you.
- ✓ If you have a concern and wish to make a formal complaint, please ensure that you correctly **follow the school's policies and complaint procedures** accessed via the school website or in person via the school office.



## 2. Our school expects families to:

- ✓ Respect the caring ethos of the school.
- ✓ Support children to follow our 5 golden rules: We are kind; We tell the truth; We respect property; We keep ourselves and others safe; We listen and follow instructions.
- ✓ Support children to reflect on their choices if they break our golden rules and take steps to restore positive relationships with those affected.
- ✓ Understand that parents and teachers need to work together for the benefit of our children.
- ✓ Demonstrate in their own behaviour that **all** members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech, manners and behaviour.
- ✓ Understand that even if there are challenging conversations or issues that need to be addressed, family members must remain calm and respectful and be mindful that we are all working together for the best interests of our children.
- ✓ Approach school staff in a respectful manner to inform them of any issue and allow them time and space to help resolve issues.
- ✓ Work with our school to build and maintain positive relationships with its staff.
- ✓ Know that children cannot be moved classes on request of the parent.
- ✓ Work with the school to fully explore the circumstances around any negative behaviour issues that their child may be involved with or the victim of. Seek to fully resolve these issues to re-establish positive relationships.
- ✓ Identify where your own child's behaviour may lead to conflict and address this at an early stage. If necessary, seek further support from school.
- ✓ Not using staff as threats to discipline children.

## 3. In order to support a peaceful, productive and safe school environment our school does not tolerate:

- × Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom, office or other area of school grounds
- × Loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing or displaying temper
- × Threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, governor, visitor, parent/carer or pupil
- × Disrespecting, damaging or destroying school property
- × Sending abusive or threatening emails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication
- × Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school on any social media sites such as Facebook



- × The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physically punishing your own child on school premises
- × Chastising or 'telling off' someone else's child
- × Smoking/vaping, or consuming alcohol or drugs whilst on school property
- × Bringing dogs on to school premises unless they are service animals

We want you and your child to enjoy the best possible educational experience they can. Being aware of our school's expectations will help you to do that.

We expect all families to follow the expected behaviour and requests set out in this document. If any parent behaves in a way which contradicts this agreement, we will address the problem at the earliest opportunity and aim to resolve the issue.

**Persistent concerns or breaches may result in banning the offending adult from entering school grounds. This is something we never want to do but the welfare and safety of children and adults on our school site is paramount.**

#### **4. Inappropriate use of social network sites or inappropriate online behaviour**

- Class Dojo is the app we use to regularly communicate school information. The chat function is encrypted so you can contact your child's class teacher securely and confidentially. We expect this function to be used appropriately for genuine concerns or queries about school. Families must be mindful of staff work-life balance and should give staff time to respond to queries as close to regular school operational times as possible.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff at the school should not be aired on Facebook or other social sites.
- Any concerns you may have about the school or staff must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher, a member of the Senior Leadership Team or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- In the event that any registered pupil or family member of a child or children at White Mere Community Primary School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, 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 their sites and they provide robust mechanisms to report content or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments/ material immediately.
- In serious cases the 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 one child or a family member to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network content. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.
- We would expect that parents would make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this guidance and expectations.



### **5. Dress and Appearance:**

- We expect all adults accessing our school to dress appropriately at all times.
- Please avoid clothing that may be viewed as offensive, revealing, sexually provocative, display contentious slogans and so on.

### **6. Photographs, Videos and Images**

- Photographs and videos should only be taken under the direction and supervision of senior leaders within the school with the subject being your child only.

### **7. School Security**

- Adults on site must sign in and wear a visible visitor's badge. Those without an enhanced DBS will be supervised by school staff at all times.
- For large scale events involving many people on site, family members will *not* sign in and wear a visitor's badge but must strictly remain in the areas that have been allocated (usually the hall or school field) and only have appropriate interactions with their child under supervision of school staff.

**The following policies support and extend upon this document and are available by request from the school office, via email or downloadable via the school website:**

- Admissions Arrangements Policy
- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- Dinner Money Debt Policy
- ICT Acceptable Use Agreement
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- School Attendance Policy
- School Complaints Policy
- School Uniform Policy
- SEND and Inclusion Policies
- Staff Behaviour Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Working Together to Improve Attendance
- Working Together to Safeguard Children



**Meeting called to discuss a breach of White Mere Community Primary School's Family Agreement**

**Date:**

**Parent name:**

**Parent of:**

**Present at the meeting:**

**Summary of concern or breach:**

**Outcome:**

**Agreed next steps:**

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**Signature of Parent:**

**Signature of Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead:**