



Moat Farm Junior School 2022-2023

Policy on managing abusive and violent visitors to our school

Statement of principles

The governing body of Moat Farm Junior School encourages close links with parents and the community. It believes that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one.

The vast majority of parents, carers and others visiting our school are keen to work with us and are supportive of the school. However, on the rare occasions when a negative attitude towards the school is expressed, this can result in aggression, verbal and or physical abuse towards members of school staff or the wider school community.

The governing body expects and requires its members of staff to behave professionally in these difficult situations and attempt to defuse the situation where possible, seeking the involvement as appropriate of other colleagues. However, all members of staff have the right to work without fear of violence and abuse, and the right, in an extreme case, of appropriate self defence.

We expect parents and other visitors to behave in a reasonable way towards members of school staff. This policy outlines the steps that will be taken where behaviour is unacceptable.

Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable and will not be tolerated:

- shouting, either in person or over the telephone;
- physical intimidation, eg standing very close to her/him;
- the use of aggressive hand gestures;
- threatening behaviour;
- shaking or holding a fist towards another person;
- swearing;
- pushing;
- hitting, eg slapping, punching and kicking;
- spitting;
- racist or sexist comments;
- breaching the school's security procedures.

This is not an exhaustive list but illustrates such behaviours.

Unacceptable behaviour may result in Stour Vale Academy Trust and the police being informed of the incident. Procedure to be followed if a parent/carer behaves in an unacceptable way towards a member of the school community, the Head teacher or appropriate senior staff, will seek to resolve the situation through discussion and mediation. If necessary, the school's complaints procedures should be followed. Where all procedures have been exhausted, and aggression or intimidation continue, or where there is an extreme act of violence, a parent or carer may be banned by the Chair of Governors from the school premises for a period of time, subject to review.

Depending on the severity of the incident; In imposing a ban the following steps will be taken (steps 2 and 3 can be skipped if the school feels the severity of the incident warrants it);

1. A full statement of the incident will be recorded and any follow up actions recorded and passed to Stour Vale Academy Trust.
 2. The parent/carer will be invited in to discuss their behaviour with the head teacher.
 3. If their behaviour does not improve they will be informed in writing that they could be banned from the site if their behaviour doesn't improve.
 4. If the school feels that behaviours haven't improved the school will instruct legal services to write to the parties involved banning them from the school site.
2. Where an assault has led to a ban, a statement indicating that the matter has been reported to Stour Vale Academy Trust and the police will be included.
3. The Chair of Governors / Trust will be informed of the ban.
4. Where appropriate, arrangements for pupils being delivered to, and collected from the school gate will be clarified.

Conclusion

The Trust itself may take action where behaviour is unacceptable or there are serious breaches of our home-school code of conduct or health and safety legislation. In implementing this policy, the school will, as appropriate, seek advice from the Trust's, health and safety and legal departments, to ensure fairness and consistency.