



Code of Conduct For Parents and Carers

At Bridgewater we strive to build a strong relationship with parents to help create a stimulating learning environment that continues from school to home, providing all pupils with the opportunity to achieve to the best of their ability.

To create a welcoming and safe learning environment, the school implements a specifically designed set of rules regarding behaviour and conduct which parents are expected to act in accordance with.

All staff members have the right to work without fear of violence or abuse; therefore, physical attacks, threatening behaviour, and abusive or insulting language towards staff members, governors, visitors, pupils or other parents may result in individuals being banned from the premises.

This document outlines the manner in which parents are expected to act whilst on the school premises, as well as detailing the type of behaviour that will not be tolerated. This includes parents dealing with matters outside of school, which are school business.

Supporting you and your child successfully through school

At Bridgewater we are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers to create a respectful, communicative and mutually supportive relationship.

We welcome and encourage parents and carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

This guide outlines what the school expects parents and carers to do to support the school to ensure their child can flourish and progress in an atmosphere of co-operation and mutual understanding.

The essentials:

- ✓ Make sure your child arrives to school on time and is picked up promptly (if appropriate). Please let us know if you are running late or if your child is going home with someone else
- ✓ Any children who do arrive late to school, must report to the school office and be given a late slip.
- ✓ Complete all consent, contact and medical forms and inform us immediately if anything changes



- ✓ Maintain a good relationship with your child's class teacher and attend workshops, school events and parent updates wherever possible or re-arrange if necessary to share information about your child's development.
- ✓ 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, please contact the school as soon as possible. We want to work with parents and carers to resolve any issues as quickly as possible. If your concern cannot be resolved informally, the school has a formal complaint policy and procedures which you can access on the school website or through the school office

The school expects parents and carers to:

- ✓ Respect the caring ethos of the school
- ✓ Understand that parents and staff 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 and behaviour
- ✓ Understand that even if there is conflict or disagreement, remain as calm as possible, treat staff and other parents or carers with respect and be mindful that we are all working together for the child's best interests
- ✓ Approach school staff to inform them of any issue and allow them to help resolve issues
- ✓ Work in partnership with the school to build good relationships with staff and to resolve any issues as quickly and peacefully as possible.
- ✓ Know that children cannot be moved classes on request of the parent
- ✓ Understand that a child's version of events, while a valid reflection of the child's experience, may not fully explain the context and other factors which may have impacted on the event or incident. We expect parents to discuss situations and incidents with the school and work in partnership to resolve any issues as quickly and peacefully as possible
- ✓ Correct their own child's behaviour, especially where it could lead to conflict
- ✓ Agree not to record telephone conversations with staff members or to record meetings with staff and/or Governors without agreement from both parties.



In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the 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 or causing actual harm to a member of school staff, governor, visitor, parent/carer or pupil (including abusive or threatening emails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication)
- × Damaging or destroying school property
- × Demanding responses to complaints or any other correspondence within unreasonable timescales (we will deal with complaints in line with our published complaints policy. All other correspondence will be responded to as soon as the school is able to do so, understanding that educating the children in our care is our core role and always comes first.
- × Sending frequent, demanding, or disrespectful emails to staff members as this will seriously undermine their ability to carry out their core role of educating the children in their care
- × The use of social media to make defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff at the school
- × The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physically punishing your own child on school premises
- × Chastising someone else's child
- × Bringing drugs and/or smoking or consuming alcohol or drugs whilst on school property
- × Bringing dogs onto school premises unless they are carried

We want all our children, parents, carers and staff to feel safe and welcome at school and hope sharing our expectations with you will help us all to work together to achieve this.

If we feel that a parent or carer is acting in a way which contradicts this code of conduct, we will address the problem at the earliest opportunity and aim to resolve the issue positively if possible.

Persistent breaches may result in banning the offending adult from entering the 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.