



**Aletheia**  
Academies Trust

# **Parent Code of Conduct**

## **October 2023**

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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 schools' Behaviour Policies).

This code of conduct aims to help the school to work 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)
- ▶ Any adult or child accompanying parents or carers of a pupil at any time

# 2. Our Expectations of Parents and Carers or Associates

We expect parents to:

- ▶ Respect the ethos, vision and values of the school community and of the Trust
- ▶ Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils

- ▶ Treat all members of our school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- ▶ Seek a peaceful solution to any contentious 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
- ▶ Follow the school's parking rules and procedures for dropping-off and collecting pupils from school.
- ▶ Dress in an appropriate manner when on the school premises and attending school events, and ensure their dress and appearance reflects that they are role models for pupils, e.g. parents may not wear nightwear when dropping-off or collecting pupils.

### **3. Driving pupils to school**

- ▶ Parents will drop off and collect their children only where road markings allow. Parents are not permitted, to stop, wait, drop off, or pick up pupils while parked a prohibited area.
- ▶ Residents' drives should not be blocked under any circumstances, even during short periods of waiting where the car is in use. Vehicles should be driven in a calm manner which causes least disturbance to residents.
- ▶ Petrol or diesel Engines should be turned off when a vehicle is stationary and not in traffic as vehicle exhaust emissions contribute significantly to air pollution and are particularly harmful to children.
- ▶ Due regard should be given to the directions of the school's traffic marshals, who are present to advise on and enforce this code of conduct.

- ▶ The school's traffic marshals will seek, as far as is possible, to prioritise patrolling the drop-off zone in the morning and afternoon and will assist parents in dropping off and collecting their child and moving on.
- ▶ All pupils will wear a seatbelt at all times while they are being driven to and from school. Parents will ensure pupils disembark vehicles safely at the correct stop and crossroads with care.
- ▶ Parents are to use their discretion in severe weather and drive with extra caution as appropriate.
- ▶ Pupils should not be collected late - all pupils are expected to be collected at the end of the school day. If a parent is delayed in picking up their child for any reason it is the parents' responsibility to call an authorised adult to collect the pupil from school on their behalf.
- ▶ Parents that are going to be late picking their child up from school and cannot arrange for an authorised adult to collect the pupil from school on their behalf should inform the school as soon as possible.

#### **4. Behaviour that will not be tolerated**

- ▶ Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school events (including events on 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 animals on to the school premises (other than Guide and Therapy dogs)

## **5. Breaching the Code of Conduct**

If a school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent or associate 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 or Head of School
- ▶ 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 or Head of School.

- ▶ The Headteacher or Head of School will consult the Chair of Governors before withdrawing the right for the parent to be on school premises