

# The Beacon Family Values, guiding principles for parents and carers

## Parent code of conduct

The Beacon Church of England (VA) Primary School

<b>Approved by:</b>	Curriculum and Learning Committee	<b>Date:</b> 16/07/2024
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## The Beacon’s vision statement

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

Our vision is for ‘Living life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10). The bible teaches us that God wants all his children to flourish, and that community and living well together are of the utmost importance in achieving this aim. We call our community ‘One Big Beacon Family’, together we focus on achieving our Vision for all members of our community. Working with parents and carers, we provide learning and play experiences which engage children’s interests; inspire them to want to know more; motivate them to persevere with their learning and empower them to develop skills of independence. We aim that our children will become:

- **Confident individuals** who can positively face the successes and challenges of life.
- **Successful learners** who can take their place in a constantly changing world.
- **Responsible citizens** who are able to make a positive contribution to today’s diverse society.
- **Appreciative and respectful of** other **people’s uniqueness and talents** and recognised and celebrated for their own.

We want each child, member of staff and our wider community to learn to live life in all its fullness, develop wonderful life-long memories of their Beacon years and the knowledge, skills and understanding to be able to continue to flourish throughout their lives.

Throughout our lives, we face tough challenges, difficult times and great joy. We can read examples of all these, and how to manage them, in the Bible. In order to live life in all its fullness, we all need support to learn to understand, develop and use strategies which keep us safe, care for and promote our mental health and wellbeing and empower us to be our best selves.

‘Collective Worship in a Church school should enable every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It will help educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect, and developing community and understanding of living well together.

Further information about our Vision statement can be found on our school website.

### 1. Purpose and scope

At The Beacon Church of England (VA) Primary School we believe it’s important to:

- Work in partnership with parents and carers 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 behaviour policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the school work together with parents and carers by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents and carers' to refer to:

- › Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil ([Parental Responsibility is a legal term, see here for details](#))
- › Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

## 2. Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- › Respect the vision, ethos and values of our school
- › Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- › Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- › Seek a peaceful solution to all 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

## 3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- › Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- › Swearing, or using offensive language on the school site or to members of school staff
- › Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- › Threatening another member of the school community
- › Sending and/or responding to abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media. This includes messages between parents and carers, for example on a 'Class What's App Group' set up by parents and carers for their own use.
- › Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- › Use of physical punishment against your child while on school premises
- › Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- › Lengthy and / or repeated requests for information, communication and/or meetings, including repeated requests for further information
- › Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- › Smoking, vaping or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- › Possessing or taking recreational drugs (including legal highs) on the school site
- › Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs) except when specific permission has been granted, for example if requested and agreed as part of the curriculum

## 4. Breaching the code of conduct

If the school suspects, or becomes aware, that a parent or carer has breached the code of conduct, the school will gather information from those involved and speak to the parent or carer about the incident.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the school may then:

- Send a warning letter to the parent or carer
- Invite the parent into school to meet with a senior member of staff or the headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from Devon County Council's Legal Team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent or carer from the school site
- Make recommendations for and/or ban the parent or carer from communicating with certain staff members in certain ways

The school will always respond to an incident in a proportional way. The final decision for how to respond to breaches of the code of conduct rests with the headteacher.

The headteacher will consult the chair of governors before banning a parent or carer from the school site.