

Parent and Carer Code of Conduct



ADOPTED

November 2023

NEXT REVIEW

November 2026

1. Purpose and scope

At Unity College, a key aspect of our vision is that our community is characterised by an ethos of inclusivity, tolerance and respect.

We believe it's important to:

- Work in partnership with parents and carers to support their children's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for students, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our students 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 students (through our Behaviour Policy and Behaviour Curriculum).

This Code of Conduct aims to help the College school work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- Anyone with parental responsibility for a student
- Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents)

2. Our expectations of parents and carers

All parents and carers sign a Home-College Agreement when their child joins Unity College. In addition to this, we expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- Respect the ethos, vision and values of our college
- Work together with staff in the best interests of our students
- Treat all members of the College 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 college staff to help resolve any issues of concern

3. Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, college operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- Swearing, or using offensive language
- Shouting at members of staff, students or other parents
- Threatening another member of the College community
- Sending abusive messages to another member of the College community, including via text, email or social media
- Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the College, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- Use of physical punishment against your child while on college 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 (including vaping) or drinking alcohol on the College premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- Bringing dogs onto the College premises (other than guide dogs)

4. Breaching the Code of Conduct

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

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

- Send a warning letter to the parent
- Invite the parent into college to meet with a senior member of staff or the Headteacher
- Contact the appropriate authorities (in cases of criminal behaviour)
- Seek advice from our legal team regarding further action (in cases of conduct that may be libellous or slanderous)
- Ban the parent from the College site

The College will always respond to an incident in a proportionate 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 from the College site.