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Thursday 16th November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

In recent months we have seen an increase in parents being verbally abusive and aggressive towards staff in person, on the phone or via Dojo. All staff members have the right to work without fear of violence, abuse or harassment, therefore physical attacks, threatening behaviour or abusive or insulting language will not be tolerated and could result in individuals being removed from the premises. Such behaviour could potentially result in the school exercising its legal right to ban parents/ carers from the premises.

All staff at Boarshaw Primary are committed to ensuring that all children thrive and are safe. As a school community we have a range of needs and a significant number of children who have special educational needs, meaning that their responses to situations can, on occasions, be more challenging than most. All children in school are supported to ensure that they make the correct behaviour choices and I would ask that all parents support teachers in doing this. Any concerns should be raised with the class teacher or the school office, under no circumstances should parents approach individual children or parents within the school grounds.

Staff will respond to parents as swiftly as they can via email, dojo, phone calls or where appropriate with a face to face meeting. All teachers have a full-time teaching commitment and attend meetings/training after school, as such there is no guarantee that teachers will respond the same day. Teachers will respond to enquiries/ calls as soon as they can and aim, where possible, to respond within 48 hours. Teachers will not respond to messages sent at night or over the weekend.

As a school we will not tolerate, from children or parents, physical or verbal abuse, harassment or intimidation, rude or aggressive behaviour, racism, homophobia or sexism nor will we tolerate victimisation of children who have special educational needs. The Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 and the Equality Act 2010 protects children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities from discrimination in education.

Discrimination and victimisation of pupils based on the protected characteristics of disability or race will be dealt with swiftly. Children will be spoken to by staff and where appropriate by the Head or Deputy Head Teacher. Parents will be informed if their child has used racist or discriminatory language. Repeated breaches of the school's behaviour management policy could result in suspensions. Incidents could, if it is felt appropriate, be reported to the police.

All children irrespective of their academic ability, race, sex or sexual orientation deserve to be educated within a mainstream school. Should I, as the Head of the school, feel that we can not meet the needs of a child within our school, this is a matter that I would discuss in private with parents and the Local Authority. Parents of children attending Boarshaw Primary do not get to decide whether another child should be educated here nor do they get to decide whether or not a child is suspended or permanently excluded, these are decisions that are made by the Head Teacher.

Kind regards,

Jackie Harland

Head Teacher