



Thinking Schools Academy Trust
“Transforming Life Chances”

Parent/Carer Conduct Policy

This policy was adopted on	April 2015
The policy is to be reviewed on	

1 Aims of the Policy

- 1.1. The Thinking Schools Academy Trust is dedicated to ensuring that all students at their academies achieve their potential and will work in partnership with all relevant stakeholders to achieve these aims. Parents/Carers are a key stakeholder and their actions may have a detrimental effect on the good order, and safety at the academies. The Thinking Schools Academy Trust has a duty of care for both staff and students to ensure their safety and well-being. This policy will outline the behaviours that are unacceptable on or near the academy site and what sanctions are available to deal with the behaviour.
- 1.2. This policy should be read in conjunction the Complaints Policy as we expect all parent/carer complaints to be taken seriously and to be dealt with comprehensively and as far as possible in confidence. The complaints policy allows parent/carer complaints about academy issues to be dealt with efficiently and sensitively, and at the appropriate level.

2 The Scope and Application of this Policy

- 2.1 The policy aims to ensure that the following behaviours demonstrated by parent/carers will be dealt with by the Academy:

- offensive language or malicious comments
- unwarranted and unnecessary correspondence taking up undue teaching and administrative time,
- intimidation
- disruptive or threatening behaviour
- racist conduct
- incitement of others and threats or risk of injury

This is not an exhaustive list and provides an indication of the behaviours which we feel are unacceptable in the academy environment.

This policy does not affect the right of parent/carer or other parties to make complaints to the Academy.

3 Key principles

- The education of the children of the parent/carer involved will not be compromised in any way;
- Clear documentary evidence is kept of any correspondence, action or decisions for a period of at least 12 months;
- The Academy will fully investigate all valid concerns;
- Any decisions will be fully communicated to the parent/carer;
- Any parent/carer behaving unlawfully will be reported to the police.

4 Procedures

The Thinking Schools Academy Trust has a range of strategies to employ with any parent/carer who persists with unacceptable conduct. Whilst these sanctions are set out in the policy by way of a sequential process, they can be initiated at any stage if, in the reasonable judgement of the Headteacher/Principal, the severity of the behaviour warrants such a level of intervention.

4.1 Verbal Warning/Mediation Meeting

A parent/carer who displays any of the behaviour as described above will be asked politely to stop and offered the opportunity to discuss the matter in person on the first occasion.

4.2 Formal Written Warnings

A formal written letter will be sent by the Head teacher/Headteacher/Principal to the parent/carer where they continue to act unacceptably. The letter will warn the parent/carer of their behaviour and set out the possibility of legal sanctions being imposed should a further breach occur. The letter will be circulated to relevant internal parties to ensure that an informed and consistent approach can be adopted.

4.3 Legal Sanctions

If a parent/carer breaches the expected standard of behaviour as set out in this policy despite a formal written warning, then the following sanctions may be considered:

A – A parent/carer may be banned from the Academy site for a specified period, subject to regular review by the Governing Body. The parent/carer will have the opportunity to make representations on the imposition of a ban. Any entry onto the site in contravention of such a ban and where a nuisance or disturbance is caused would be a criminal offence under section 547 Education Act 1996. Entry in contravention of a ban will result in removal from the premises by the Police or an authorised member of staff. The Academy will also consider a criminal prosecution.

B - The Academy may seek an injunction under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 requiring the parent/carer to stop behaving in the specified inappropriate manner.

C - The Academy may seek an ASBO. The Court will have the ability to grant an ASBO which would prohibit the parent/carer from pursuing a certain course of action.

5 Equal Opportunities

5.1 In implementing this policy the Governing Body, Headteacher/Principal and staff must take account of the Academy's Equal Opportunities policy.

6 Monitoring and Review

6.1 The Headteacher/Principal will report to the Governing Body annually on the number and type of incidents and behaviours displayed by parent/carers received and their outcomes.