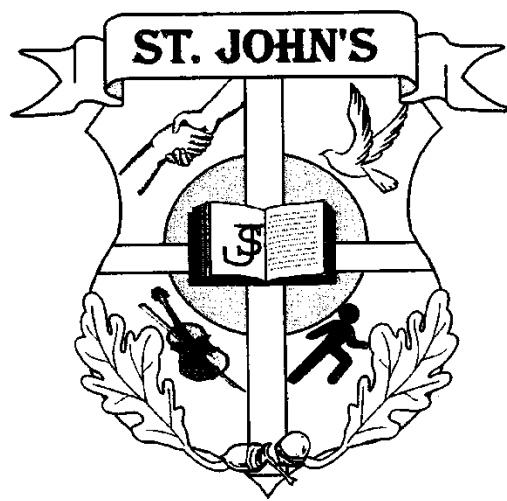


**St. John's Primary School
Bligh's Lane
Derry**

**Parent/Carer Relations
2024**



“Learning Together Growing Together”

Mission Statement

At St. John's Catholic, Primary School, we provide a happy, nurturing, inclusive, learning, environment which delivers high quality outcomes and life-enriching experiences. We embrace diversity and encourage all to respect the environment and develop the confidence and digital skillset required to contribute to society and the local and global economy. We work collaboratively with parents/carers and community partners to promote the social, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual well-being of each individual, thereby enabling our school family to 'Learn Together' and 'Grow Together'.

Rationale

At St John's PS, we are very fortunate to have very supportive and friendly Parents/Carers. Our parents/carers recognise that educating children is a process that involves a partnership involving governors, class teachers, learning support assistants, parents/carers and members of the wider community and parish. As a partnership, our parents/carers understand the importance of good working relationships to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons, we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this policy is to outline our expectations in relation to good relations between staff and parents. This is so that we can thrive, progress, and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect.

Aims

Our overarching aim is that all members of this school community treat each other with respect in line with our Catholic ethos and our RESPECT Charter.

- **All** members of the school community should set a good example in their own speech and behaviour in person and on-line.
- Parents/Carers should discuss issues or concerns within the school premises. Any concerns should be raised by speaking to the Class Teacher, Senior Leader, the Principal, or the Chairperson of the Board of Governors. Please be assured that all concerns will be dealt with fairly, appropriately, and effectively as outlined in our School Complaints policy.
- Any issues of concern should be raised immediately by speaking to the class teacher, in the first instance, and then the School Management Team if necessary. Please note that a child's version of events should be clarified with the school's view to bring about a fair and considered solution to any issue.
- Approaches to someone else's child, either to discuss or chastise them because of their actions towards another child, should never happen. Such an approach to a child may be seen as an assault on that child and may have legal consequences.
- Adults should park with consideration, when driving to and from school, making sure that the access gates are always kept clear.

- Please refrain from bringing any products containing nuts onto the school premises as we have several children with life-threatening allergies.
- Smoking/vaping, consumption of alcohol or being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs is prohibited on school premises.
- Allowing children to cycle or scoot onto the playground is not permitted to ensure the safety of others.
- In the interests of safety, adults are not permitted to carry school-aged children on their shoulders or in their arms.
- Dogs should be kept outside the school premises as some children are afraid of all dogs, even friendly ones.
- Physical attacks, threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language (verbal or written) to Staff, Governors, Parents/Carers or Children should not occur at any time.

Where any of the above occur, incidents should be reported immediately to a member of staff. The matter will then be investigated by the Principal. The offending Parent/Carer or Visitor will be advised of the need for respectful, safe behaviour. Should there be any recurrent issues, a letter will be issued informing the parent/carer or visitor that they may be banned from the school site. Please note that incidents of this nature will be discussed with the Chairperson of the Board of Governors and CCMS.

Inappropriate use of Social Networking Sites

Social Media Platforms should never be used to fuel complaint about the school, the Principal, School Staff, other Parents or Children. The Board of Governors of St. John's PS School considers Social Media Platforms being used in this way as wholly unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community.

The school will immediately remove any negative or defamatory comments from the school social media platforms. If necessary, inappropriate usage will be reported to the 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social media platforms have clear rules about the content which can be posted on their sites. Furthermore, they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this.

Parents/carers should also note that they should only share photos of their own children, at school events, on social media platforms.

Abusive or threatening e-mails, texts, voicemails, phone messages or other written communication will not be accepted.

Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entries. We will take and deal with this as a serious breach of our Positive Behaviour/Anti-bullying or Safeguarding policies.

MONITORING, EVALUATION & REVIEW

A full review of procedures will be completed annually and advice sought from EA and CCMS where necessary.

Signed:

Date:

Kathleen McCallion
(Chairperson of the Board of Governors)

(Ratified at Board of Governors' Meeting)