



St John Fisher RC Primary School

Policy on Abusive or Threatening Behaviour on School Premises

MISSION STATEMENT

Love Jesus, love learning,

Inspiring each other to be the best that we can be.

Departmental advice on health and safety for schools: Power to bar abusive parents

Sometimes aggressive or abusive behaviour from a parent can present a risk to staff and children. School premises are private property and parents will generally have permission from the school to be on school premises. However, in cases of abuse or threats to staff, pupils or other parents, schools may ban parents from entering the school.

It is also an offence under section 547 of the Education Act 1996 for any person (including a parent) to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises. The police may be called to assist the school in removing a parent but local authorities and governing bodies may also authorise a person to remove a person if they have reasonable cause to believe that the person is causing a nuisance or a disturbance.

Schools should have a written policy setting out the behaviour expected of parents on the premises and the procedures that will happen when the school wishes to restrict a parent's access to school premises. A parent who has been banned from entering school premises is trespassing if he or she does so without permission.

All members of the school community have a right to expect that their school is a safe place in which to work and learn.

Verbal abuse, threatening behaviour, physical abuse or violence against school staff or other members of the school community will not be tolerated. There will be zero tolerance of such behaviour within the school.

Where such behaviour does occur, action will be taken to deal with the person or persons concerned.

Action to be taken if an incident occurs

Incident Report

If an incident involving verbal abuse, threatening behaviour, physical abuse or violence does occur then an incident report form will be completed by the member of the school community against whom the abuse was directed. *(In the case of this being a pupil a member of staff may complete the form on their behalf. The pupil should read what has been written, agree the contents and sign it.)*

Step 1: First Warning

The headteacher or deputy headteacher will speak to the person or persons perpetrating such an incident privately. (However, they may wish to have someone with them). It will be put to the person that such behaviour is unacceptable and an assurance will be sought that such an incident will not be repeated. It will be stressed on this occasion that repetition of such an incident will result in further more serious action being taken. The headteacher may write to the adult(s) informing them that this conduct is unacceptable.

Step 2: Final Written Warning

If a second incident occurs involving the same person or persons, the Chair of Governors will write to the adult(s) giving a final warning that this abusive and threatening behaviour is unacceptable, and that a

repetition of this conduct will leave the governors no option but to involve the local authority (LA) and / or the police. The process may be accelerated according to the level of behaviour.

Step 3: Local Authority Ban Letter

If such an incident recurs, or if an initial incident is considered serious enough by the headteacher, the LA would be involved to enforce any action deemed necessary. This may result in a person or persons being excluded from school premises. The LA may consider taking legal action to enforce a ban. Therefore an assurance will need to be sought from members of the school community who witnessed the offence that they will be prepared to give evidence in court should the need arise.

Step 4: Involvement of the Local Authority and Police

If following a decision to ban a person from the school premises, that person nevertheless persists in entering school premises and causes a nuisance or disturbance, such a person may be removed from the school premises as a trespasser and prosecuted under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996. They may also be charged with an offence under the Public Order Act 1986 or other such legislation.

All parents, even if excluded from school premises following action by the LA, have a right to be informed about their child's educational progress. This will be achieved through a meeting with the other parent or through a written report.

Appealing a ban from school premises

The individual who has been banned from school premises must be allowed to present their side. This appeal can be made within two weeks of the banning letter being sent and must be in writing. Written submissions must be made to the Chair of Governors. Governors will then review evidence presented by both the individual and the school. Governors will decide if the decision to ban will be upheld or revoked.

Document history

Date	Amendments
February 2015	Original documents
September 2017	Reviewed
September 2019	Reviewed
September 2021	Reviewed
September 2023	Reviewed Appeal information added
September 2025	Reviewed