



Beeston Primary School

Town Street, Leeds, LS11 8PN

“Engage, Enjoy, Enrich, Excel”

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reminder: Communications With and Behaviour at Our School

I hope you have all settled into the new 2024-25 academic year and I want to first express my thanks for your support and participation with the school and your children’s learning. Our school operates most successfully when its relationship with parents is at its best. This takes work from both sides, and while we will take steps to ensure that you and your children feel safe and supported, we expect the same of parents while on school premises, when communicating with school, and when supporting your children at home.

Recently, and unfortunately, the school has been faced with some unreasonable behaviour from parents. This has included refusals to discuss issues with children’s class teachers, demands for meetings with me and demands to meet with certain members of staff, whilst refusing to speak to others. On occasion, we have also been faced with the disappointing scenario of threatening and volatile behaviour. These types of behaviours take up a lot of resources and take away from our ability to educate children and run the school effectively. This is something that I would like to address now to confirm expectations, not only of parents, but also of the school.

Firstly, I would like to remind parents of the Code of Conduct published on the school website:

<https://www.beestonprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Parental-Code-of-Conduct-2023-24.pdf>

This sets out the expectations of all parents, carers and visitors when dealing with the school and sets out some types of behaviour that will not be tolerated. For example, threatening, disruptive or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated, and neither will derogatory comments posted on social media or other written or verbal communications.

As a school we want to spend the most time educating and developing children. Therefore, the school needs to limit any activities that take time away from such important activities. I need to make it clear that should parents continue to display unreasonably demanding behaviour, such as refusing to leave the school office until they see a certain staff member, or if any parent should be intimidating or threatening to any child or member of staff; the school will seek legal action. This may result in the implementation of a communication order to streamline communication with the school, or a parent may be banned from the school site. I should confirm that these steps will only be taken where it is absolutely necessary, and we will not limit or impede a parent’s access to the school or its staff without reason.

I want to reassure you that I, and all the staff at the school, take our legal obligations seriously. This includes educating and safeguarding your children, as well as communicating with parents to ensure that you have the opportunity to participate in your children’s education. Working together is when we are at our best and the school will continue to comply with its obligation to consider views expressed by parents when promoting the wellbeing of our children and promoting community cohesion.

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The school will also continue to comply with its duties to share information with and communicate with parents. Whilst there is no legal obligation for the school to communicate with parents daily, we will continue to share relevant updates, successes, concerns and other information at regular intervals to enable parents to participate in their child’s education. This may include updates on our Facebook page, through our parent text messaging service or school website.

What the school cannot continue to do is communicate with each parent every day and cannot continue to grant meetings at the demand of parents. This takes up valuable time and resources which is better placed in running the school and providing education. I therefore need to make it clear that day to day comments, issues or concerns, as well as informal complaints, need to be passed to your child’s class teacher. This includes any requests for meetings which may be arranged within a reasonable timeframe and are unlikely to be carried out the same day. Any formal complaints can continue to be addressed in accordance with our Complaints Policy.

Where meetings are requested, staff will do their best to accommodate requests. However, some issues will not require a meeting, and I trust our school’s staff to use their professional judgement to explain to parents where a meeting may not be required. Additionally, our school encourages staff to take time for their own wellbeing, therefore we do not expect staff to answer emails, take phone calls or hold meetings after school hours.

I apologise for having to address these issues. However, it is important to set out expectations so that the school and parents can move forward and adopt a cooperative and supportive approach.

I wish you all a wonderful half term break and look forward to seeing you next week at our parent consultation meetings.

Mr N Edensor

Headteacher

For and on behalf of the Governing Board of
Beeston Primary School