



Parents' Code of Conduct

At the British International School of Ljubljana (BISL), we are extremely fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Our parents recognise that educating children effectively is a process that involves partnership between parents, staff and the wider school community.

As partners, our parents will understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

The purpose of this document is to provide a reminder to all parents, carers and visitors to our school about the expected conduct. This is so we can continue to flourish, progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

Guidance

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- respect and model the caring ethos of our school whenever on school premises or when communicating directly with the school;
- understand that school staff and parents need to work together for the benefit of all;
- demonstrate that all members of the school community should be treated with tolerance and respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech, conduct and behaviour;
- seek to clarify a child's version of events with the school's view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issue;
- correct own child's behaviour especially in public where it could otherwise lead to conflict, aggressive behaviour or unsafe behaviour;
- approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues or concern. In the first instance this should be the child's class teacher or form tutor. For academic issues in particular subjects, parents should contact the subject teacher or relevant Head of Department. If the issue is not resolved satisfactorily in the first instance, the relevant member of SLT should be approached:
 - Pastoral, safeguarding, or issues surrounding a child with special educational needs - Ms. Katarina Zelezinger katarina.zelezinger@britishschool.si
 - Teaching and Learning in Primary – Mrs. Lauren Thomas-Hayes lauren.thomas@britishschool.si
 - Teaching and Learning in Secondary – Mrs. Alexandra Gordon Alexandra.gordon@britishschool.si
 - Assessment – Mr. Jason Batson Jason.batson@britishschool.si



- If the issue is not resolved at the second stage, please contact the Principal, Ms. Mel Hitchcocks. In the absence of Ms. Hitchcocks please direct concerns to Ms. Gordon.
- **In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:**
- breaching school security procedures, e.g., entering school without signing in or collecting a visitor pass and/or attempting to gain entry to any part of the school in disregard of procedure or without permission and appropriate supervision;
- disruptive behaviour which interferes, or threatens to interfere, with the operation of a classroom, an employee's office, office area or any other area of the school grounds including team matches;
- disturbing school staff and trying to speak to them whilst they are supervising children;
- using loud or offensive language, swearing, cursing, using profane language or displaying temper;
- threatening to do actual bodily harm to a member of school staff, Board member, visitor, fellow parent/carers or pupil, regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence;
- damaging or destroying school property;
- sending abusive, persistent or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communication;
- posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parent/staff at the school on Facebook or other social sites (see additional advice regarding social media below). Any concerns you may have about the school must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Principal or the Regional Head of Schools, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned in accordance with the Concerns and Complaints Policy;
- using physical aggression towards another adult or child;
- approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences);
- smoking or consuming alcohol or other drugs whilst on school property.

Should any of the above behaviour occur on school premises, the school may consider it necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and even, if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds.



We trust that parents and carers will assist our school with the implementation of this Code of Conduct and we thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Inappropriate use of Social Media

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools or to share inappropriate information, e.g. naming children involved in incidents, sharing confidential information regarding an aspect of school life, making allegations or accusations or sharing false news. BISL considers the use of social media websites or apps in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community. Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the leadership team or the Principal, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned in accordance with the Concerns and Complaints Policy.

In the event that any student or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated at BISL is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites or apps, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site, and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or student removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases, the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. 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 activity. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

We also expect that parents will make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy.

At BISL we take our safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will deal with any reported incidents appropriately in line with the actions outlined above.

Prepared by: Mel Hitchcocks, Principal

Date: August 2023

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