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Head Teacher: Mr. G. R. Rhodes



4th July 2018

Parental behaviour whilst on school premises

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to acknowledge and thank the vast majority of parents who act in an appropriate manner and with a respectful attitude whilst on school grounds; however, unfortunately it is becoming a regular occurrence that some parents are aggressive or rude to school staff, particularly to the **office staff**.

At our school, we understand that parents are often trying to juggle several commitments at once, may be running late for appointments or are having a particularly stressful day, and that this can lead to brash and uncharacteristic behaviour. Nonetheless, rude and aggressive language towards members of staff **will not be tolerated under any circumstances**.

I would like to take this opportunity to raise awareness of, and emphasise, the importance of abiding by the school's behavioural codes. These are in place in order to set a good example for pupils, showing them how to cooperate with and work alongside other members of the wider community, and to protect pupils and staff members from being the victims of abusive behaviour.

Highwoods Academy implements a strict **Adult Behaviour Policy**, which all individuals entering the school premises must abide by, outlining the school's right to escort individuals from the premises.

All staff members have the right to work without fear of violence or abuse; therefore, physical attacks, threatening behaviour, and abusive or insulting language towards staff members, governors, visitors, pupils or other parents may result in the individual being removed from the premises.

It should be noted that, under section 547 of the Education Act 1996, it is an offence for any person to cause a nuisance or disturbance on school premises, and that the police may be contacted to assist in the removal of individuals from the premises, where necessary.

Furthermore, as outlined in the school's **Adult Behaviour Policy**, the persistent occurrence of unacceptable behaviour can result in individuals being permanently banned from the premises.

Highwoods Academy believes that pupils benefit when the relationship between home and school is a positive one, and I urge parents to take this into account when conducting themselves on the school site.

If you have any concerns about the school's **Adult Behaviour Policy**, or in regards to the behaviour of individuals on site, please contact the **school office**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. R. Rhodes'.

Mr G. R. Rhodes Headteacher