

Our Ref:KH/WS/Pupil conduct

5th June 2023



Dear Parents/Carers

Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Pupil Conduct

I write to share my concerns about a number of incidents that have occurred in the community recently. I am keen to draw your attention to the matters and I appreciate that not every child is involved in these events. However, I urge you to discuss the details of this letter with your child and encourage them to continue to uphold the Beacon Values and remember that we are a Telling School.

Unfortunately, we have some pupils who are not going directly home from school. Instead they are choosing to congregate in large groups creating the perception in the community of them as causing anti-social behaviour. This is not acceptable. If pupils are not involved in extra-curricular clubs, catch ups or detentions, they should go directly home after leaving the school site. While pupils are wearing their school uniform, they represent our school and we expect that they are not loitering in the community but that they are at home safe.

When pupils are in large groups, however innocent their intentions, they can be perceived as intimidating and to be causing problems. This behaviour has been noted of some of our pupils by the local community, by local business owners and our primary partners. Fortunately, this is the behaviour of the few, but I would urge you to help us to keep your children safe by getting them home as soon as is possible after school so that they are not hanging around corners or outside the local shops.

Social Media

My staff are having to spend time investigating reports of mis-use of social media which is taking them away from working with pupils. You can report any mis-use of social media directly to the social media platform. Alternatively, you can use the CEOP button on our website to report any mis-use of the social media. I encourage you to visit the section on our website which provides details about age appropriate use of social media platforms. However, staff cannot police the use of social media as it distracts from supporting pupils in school.

We are a Telling School

Can I remind you of one of the key principles of our school is that we are a Telling School. This is something that you will have heard at your child's Induction Evening right back at the start of Year 7. This key value is important in keeping pupils safe in school. We remind pupils regularly that if they know something that puts them or others at risk, they must share it so that we can act on it. I know that you will have guided your child to be honest and open at home. I ask that you continue to remind them of the importance of this and that they report any issues to a member of staff in school.

No Mobile Phones

As you are already aware when you selected Barr Beacon for your child, we are a No Mobile Phone school for years 7-11. Unfortunately, it has come to light that some pupils have been filming other pupils in the local community, without consent, whilst in school uniform and posting onto social media platforms. This is unacceptable and any pupil doing so will be sanctioned.

May I take this opportunity to remind your child they **Must Not** bring a mobile phone into school. If your child is found to have a mobile phone, it will be confiscated, as per our policy, and you will be invited to attend a meeting with school staff before it is returned. If it is confiscated on a 2nd occasion, it will be placed in the safe for 6 weeks. Meetings will be arranged for a mutually convenient time and not on demand.

We will continue to remind pupils of our expectations through assemblies. We will celebrate pupils who follow the rules of our school and we will sanction those that do not.

Unfortunately, a very few number of parents feel that it is appropriate to raise their voice when speaking to my staff. I respectfully remind you that my colleagues will not continue a call where a parent raises their voice to them under any circumstances.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to keep your children safe when they are in school and when making their way home from school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher

