

Achieve Excellence



Exceed Expectations

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Complaints Policy

Date policy approved and adopted	October, 2019
Reviewed By	Governing Body
Review frequency	Annually
Next review date	October, 2020

Accessible Formats

This document is available in English and Welsh in Microsoft Word and pdf formats in Arial font size 12 as standard. This document is also available in large print. To request a copy of this document in an accessible format contact Mrs. Debbie Dickinson (01352 711366).



Complaints Policy

1 Introduction:

We believe that our school provides a good education for all our children, and that the Headteacher and other staff work very hard to build positive relationships with all parents. However, the school is obliged to have procedures in place in case there are complaints by parents. The following policy sets out the procedure that the school follows in such cases.

If any parent, carer or guardian is unhappy with the education that their child is receiving, or has any concern relating to the school, we encourage that person to talk to the child's class teacher immediately.

We deal with all complaints in accordance with procedures set out by the LEA. If the school cannot resolve any complaint itself, those concerned can ask the LEA to intervene.

All parents / carers have the right, as a last resort, to appeal to the Secretary of State For Education, if they still feel that their complaint has not been properly addressed.

2 Aims and Objectives:

Our school aims to be fair, open and honest when dealing with any complaint. We give careful consideration to all complaints and deal with them as swiftly as possible. We aim to resolve any complaint through dialogue and mutual understanding and, in all cases, we put the interests of the child above all other issues. We provide sufficient opportunity for any complaint to be fully discussed, and then resolved.

3 The Complaints Process:

If a parent, carer or guardian is concerned about anything to do with the education that we are providing at our school, they should, in the first instance, discuss the matter with their child's class teacher. Most matters of concern can be dealt with in this way. All teachers work very hard to ensure that each child is happy at school, and is making good progress; they always want to know if there is a problem, so that they can take action before the problem seriously affects the child's progress.

Where a parent, carer or guardian feels that a situation has not been resolved through contact with the Child's class teacher, or that their concern is of a sufficiently serious nature, they should make an appointment to discuss it with the Headteacher. The Headteacher considers any such complaint very seriously and investigates each case thoroughly. Most complaints are normally resolved at this stage.

Complaints Policy

Should a parent, carer or guardian have a complaint about the Headteacher, they should first make an informal approach to one of the members of the Governing Body, who is obliged to investigate it. The governor in question will do all they can to resolve the issue through a dialogue with the school, but if a parent, carer or guardian is unhappy with the outcome, they can make a formal complaint, as outlined below.

Only if an informal complaint fails to resolve the matter should a formal complaint be made to the Governing body. This complaint must be made in writing, stating the nature of the complaint and how the school has handled it so far. The parent should send this written complaint to the Chair of Governors.

The Governing body must consider all written complaints within three weeks of receipt. It arranges a meeting to discuss the complaint, and invites the person making it to attend the meeting, so that they can explain their complaint in more detail. The school gives the complainant at least three days' notice of the meeting.

After hearing all the evidence, the governors consider their decision and inform the parent, carer or guardian about it in writing. The governors do all they can at this stage to resolve the complaint to the parent's satisfaction.

4 Monitoring and Review:

The Chair of Governors will monitor the complaints procedure, in order to ensure that all complaints are handled properly. The Headteacher will log all complaints received by the school and record how they were resolved. The School Governing Body will examine this log on an annual basis.

The School Governing Body takes into account any local or national decisions that affect the complaints process, and make any modifications necessary to this policy. This policy is made available to all parents, so that they can be properly informed about the complaints process.