

**Headteacher**

Cheska Tyler

Email

admin@cherrytree.herts.sch.uk

Tel

01923 245490

Twitter

@CTS_Watford

AddressBerry Avenue
Watford
Hertfordshire
WD24 6ST**Web**

www.cherrytree.herts.sch.uk

Facebook

Cherry Tree Primary School

Thursday, 6 July 2023

BEHAVIOUR AT CHERRY TREE

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you to enlist your support in working together to understand and respond to children's behaviour.

Behaviour is taught. Every child is entitled to the teaching of behaviour through our culture, curriculum and values in school. We teach our children behaviour through our curriculum and consistently model examples of expected behaviour. Some ways in which we educate our children about behaviour are as follows:

Jigsaw PSHE lessons	Termly assembly plans which include awareness of local, national and global issues	Social, moral, spiritual and cultural learning across the curriculum subjects
Religious Education	Wellbeing sessions	Discussion and debate in classes
Daily meet and greet (Take 10)	Modern British Values learning through assemblies and curriculum	Behaviour Policy

As a proud member of the Inclusive Multi Academy Trust, we are an inclusive school. **All children, and their families, belong.** Every child in our school is a valued member of the school community and we adapt and respond to children's individual needs. Some children may require additional help with understanding their behaviour and this is supported through a number of ways:

- Modelling
- Restorative conversations
- Individual plans to support
- Key or linked adults
- Personal 'meet and greets'
- Advice from other agencies
- Multi Agency Support Hub (MASH) referrals
- Pastoral team support
- Wellbeing support within school

Parental Responsibility

In positive partnership with parents, we aim to address need, understand behaviours and respond so that we empower children to impact positively on society. As adults supporting children, our core purpose is to model the high aspirations and the high expectations for the children we serve. Our children need to see that both school and home, **work together** to ensure that they are growing up to be positive citizens of this world. We aim to communicate regularly with our families and hope to receive the same. We also expect families to support the school in decisions around behaviour, modelling the importance of this to our children.

Parents and carers have the responsibility to ensure that children are encouraged to speak to adults in school if they have experienced something which has made them upset.

"Learning together, learning for life!"

Support for parents/carers

At Cherry Tree, we hold many workshops to help support our parents/carers. These include SEN workshops, curriculum workshops, parenting support and many more. Should you ever want to have a 1:1 meeting with our Pastoral Team (Debbie Massey and Jo Crockett), come and book an appointment and our team would be very happy to have a chat with you.

Our next workshop is:

- Tuesday 11th July 09:30-10:30 in the Hub. This is held by our Pastoral Team alongside our NHS partner, Andrea Andrews. **Focus:** Behaviour and boundaries at home.

Use of social media

The monitoring of and access to social media is the parent/carer's responsibility. We have seen a rise in incidents occurring as a result of online use and children's access to various apps targeted for older children and adults. **It is your responsibility as a parent or carer to restrict this access and protect our children from viewing potentially harmful content or receiving harmful messages.** We understand the pressures children put on families to allow them to have access to online games and media, especially when they tell us their friends have access and we don't want them to miss out – saying 'no' is REALLY hard, **but you must.** That said, many of these games and apps have very clear age ratings, and they have these for a reason (please see image below as a reminder). As you can see, no primary aged children should be accessing ANY of the below apps.



We have dealt with multiple issues in school where children have viewed inappropriate content. They have shared this amongst themselves online or in person, children have been made to feel afraid, they don't want to sleep, they've fallen out with their friends, they're afraid to speak out. Children do not always have the life experience or strategies to be able to process things they see or hear which is precisely why we must not allow access to these things. Primary aged children **should not** have free access to the internet. Please do not let them watch things that are beyond their age. Please do not let them access apps created for older children and adults. We cannot control what our children talk about to each other, but you can control what they see in the first place – the things feeding these discussions. If you choose to allow access to these apps or content, then you absolutely must monitor the use of this. Restrict times the children use devices, ensure they are doing this in a shared area and track the history of the phone usage. It is important also to educate the children in what they should and should not be viewing and what they could do if they are unsure, feeling unsafe or worried.

Please 'be brave' when talking to your children and don't be afraid to tell them 'No, not yet'. In doing this, you are supporting their wellbeing and the wellbeing of those they talk to. You may be unpopular to begin with but you doing this will allow the children the freedom to still be children for a little longer.

“Learning together, learning for life!”

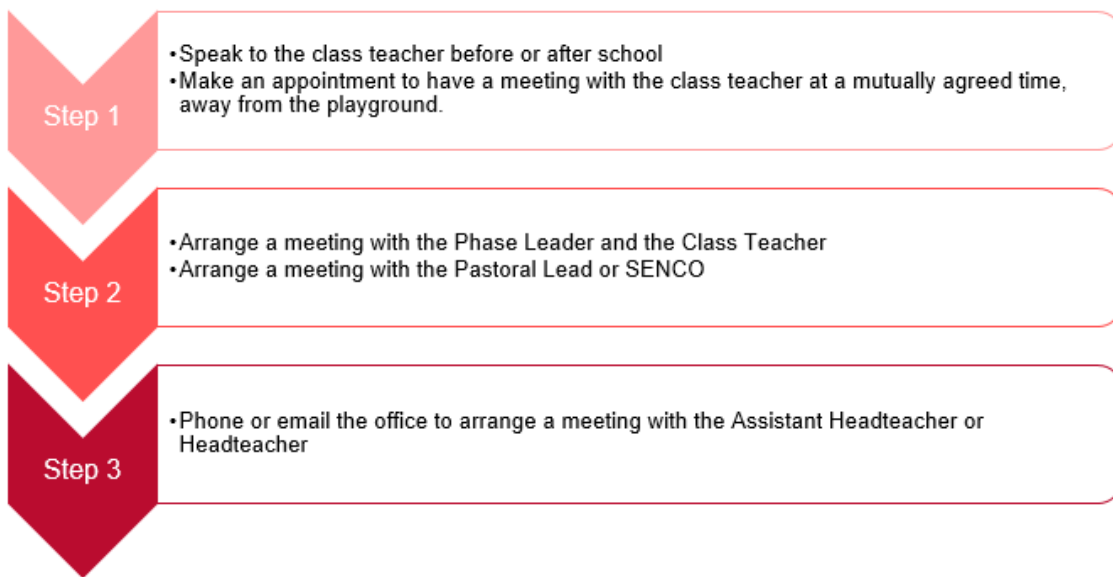
Communication procedure

I would like to remind you that if you do have a concern regarding your child/ren, to please inform the school at your earliest possible opportunity by following the steps in our communication procedure. It is important that we work closely together to ensure we are helping our children grow into respectful, well-mannered citizens of the world, knowing what is right and what to do when things are wrong.

Please remember that schools are very busy places and you may not be able to meet with a member of staff immediately but we are always happy to book an appointment with you within two days of your request.

If the situation cannot be resolved using the procedure below, then please follow our Complaints Procedure which can be found on our school website [here](#).

I would like to thank you in advance for your support and honesty when dealing with concerns you may have and appreciate your understanding in the knowledge that the Cherry Tree team are committed to ensuring that your children are happy, safe and learning. By working together, we have what our children need to thrive.



A few helpful reminders:

- Parents and school – we are a team! We work together to ensure our children are safe, happy and learning.
- Parents/Carers are not to email teachers directly. These emails will not be responded to. If you would like to make an appointment to discuss something with your Class Teacher then please arrange this with the School Office.
- We are aware that parents use Whatsapp groups to communicate and these are largely positive. On occasion, we have been made aware that some parents have shared grievances or opinions in these groups. Other parents have commented that they can feel uncomfortable with these so instead please raise any concerns directly with the school following the communication procedure.
- School is not obliged to get involved with disagreements between parents. We are here to discuss matters arising in school which directly impact our children involving behaviour or learning.
- It is not often possible to turn up to school and expect to be able to meet with certain members of staff. All requests for meetings will be processed and dealt with within two working days.

Thank you for reading this communication. It is lengthy (!) but incredibly important that we get this right. Please do feel free to come and talk to me about any of this when you see me on the playground as we are committed to ensuring that together, we guide our children in making the right choices having had the very best role models.

Yours Sincerely

Cheska Tyler
Headteacher

“Learning together, learning for life!”
