



ST. CATHERINE'S COLLEGE

A CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Governors Written Statement of Behaviour Principles

Date approved: 2015

Date to be reviewed: 2018

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Introduction

Rational and Purpose

St Catherine's College is committed to providing an environment where all people can feel safe, happy, accepted and included. It is important that an orderly framework should exist within which effective teaching and learning can take place.

This is a statement of principles, not practice; it is the responsibility of the Headteacher to draw up the school's behaviour policy, though he must take account of these principles when formulating this. The Headteacher is also asked to take account of the guidance in DfE publication Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: a guide for Headteachers and staff. The school behaviour policy must be publicised, in writing, to staff, parents/carers and children at least once a year.

Statement in Practice

The Behaviour Policy, based on Christian values, should enable and encourage children to develop self-awareness, to feel safe, to have respect for themselves and others and to look after their school and its surroundings, thus allowing our learning community to flourish.

The Governing Body firmly believe that the best way to ensure high standards of behaviour and discipline is to recognise achievement and celebrate success. However they also recognise that on occasions sanctions are necessary to demonstrate that misbehaviour is not acceptable; to express the disapproval of the school community; to deter other pupils from similar behaviour; and to ensure the health and safety of the whole school community. It is recognised that the application of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and individual pupil, and that the school is expected to exercise discretion in their use.

The Governors expect the Behaviour Policy to be in accordance with their responsibilities under equality legislation: for example, by making reasonable adjustments in its application to vulnerable pupils. It should also support the school's commitment to improving outcomes for all pupils, eliminating all forms of discrimination, harassment and bullying, as well as promoting equality of opportunity, the welfare of pupils and good relations across the whole school community.

Contents of the Policy

The Behaviour Policy should include the following:

The school's Rules and Expectations;

A clear explanation of the systems of Rewards and Sanctions;

An outline of Exclusion procedures (as presented fully in the Exclusion Policy);

The Governing Body are aware of their statutory duty to provide clear advice and guidance to the Headteacher in respect of the following: teachers' powers to search, to use reasonable force, and to discipline pupils for misbehaviour outside school. Whilst recognising that these are extreme measures, to be taken in exceptional circumstances, the Governors advise that for the protection and safety of the whole school community they should be carried out only in accordance with the specific guidance issued by the DfE and local authority (LA).

It is recommended that training be provided to the staff, to assist them on the rare occasions when it may become necessary to exercise these powers.

Principles

St Catherine's College is a Church of England School. As such, the Governing Body believe that the Behaviour Policy should be underpinned by the Christian ethos of the school, outlined in "Our Mission"; and it should seek to embrace and carry forward:

God's children at the heart of everything we do

Together:

We are listening

We are learning

We are **achieving** our God-given potential

Principles in detail

1. The Governors of St Catherine's College believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school that enables (a) all its children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life and work and (b) all staff to be able to teach and promote good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
2. All children and staff have the right to feel safe at all times in school. There should be mutual respect between staff and children and between each other. All visitors to the school should feel and be safe, free from the effects of poor behaviour at all times and in all parts of the school.
3. St Catherine's is an inclusive Church of England school. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort (as laid down in the Equality Act 2010). To this end the school must have a clear and comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy that is known and understood by all, consistently applied, monitored and where appropriate, incidents recorded. Measures to protect children from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.
4. The school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of safeguarding, students with Special Educational Needs and all vulnerable students should be set out in the Behaviour Policy and made known to all staff.
5. Parents / carers should be encouraged and helped to support their children's education, just as the children should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time at school, in the local community and in preparation for their life after school. The responsibilities of children, parents / carers and all school staff with respect to children's behaviour must be outlined in the Home School Agreement which children, parent / carers and teachers must be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.
6. The School Rules should be clearly stated in the Behaviour Policy. These should set out expected standards of behaviour, should be displayed in all relevant parts of the school and shared with and explained to all children. The governors expect the rules to be consistently applied by all staff and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.
7. Governors should see evidence of a wide range of rewards, consistently and fairly applied in such a way as to encourage and reward good behaviour in the classroom and elsewhere. These should be made clear in the Behaviour Policy and regularly monitored for their consistent, fair application and effectiveness.
8. Sanctions for unacceptable / poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and children and consistently applied. The full range of sanctions should be clearly described in the Behaviour Policy so that children, staff and parents can understand how and when they are applied. The Governors strongly feel that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must be

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used only as a very last resort. The Headteacher (or delegated other) may inform the police, as appropriate, if there is evidence of a criminal act or if he fears that one may take place. Sanctions should be monitored for their proper use and effective impact.

9. The Behaviour Policy should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against students who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff. Governors expect the Headteacher to draw on the advice in Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and other staff guidance documents when setting out the pastoral support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers. Staff so accused should not be automatically suspended pending an investigation.

The Governors expect the Headteacher to include the following in some detail in the Behaviour Policy:

- The power to use reasonable force or make other physical contact: the situations in which reasonable force may be used (including removing disruptive pupils from classrooms or preventing them from leaving) should be stated. A definition of reasonable force should be included, which would also explain how and when children may be restrained. Governors would expect all staff to have an awareness of the needs and responsibilities in the use of reasonable force and restraint.
- The power to discipline outside the school gates: disciplining beyond the school gates covers the schools response to all non-criminal bad behaviour and bullying that occurs anywhere off the school premises. The governors must be satisfied, in all situations arising, that the measures proposed by the Headteacher are lawful and that staff and children know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.