

Behaviour Principles Written Statement

St Mary's C of E

The Governing Body of St Mary's C of E School is charged with the duty to set the framework of the school's behaviour policy by providing a written statement of general principles relating to behaviour and discipline, taking into account the needs of all staff and pupils. The purpose of this statement is to give guidance to the Headteacher in drawing up the behaviour policy by stating the principles which the Governors expect to be followed. The policy aims to underpin the Governors' duty of care to pupils and employees; promote teaching and learning and high standards of attainment and preserve the reputation of the school.

Given that our school is founded on the consistent application of long-established practice, this statement and the behaviour policy will be reviewed every two years, unless changes at national or local level necessitate an exceptional review. At the heart of our school are a set of core Christian Values. These underpin our whole ethos, curriculum and school life and aim to ensure our pupils leave St Mary's Primary School as happy, secure, caring and responsible citizens. The values we promote are important within the school community and are values which will be important throughout life. In all that we do we strive to share, encourage and demonstrate positive values with our children; in order that they understand them and strive to live by them. Our school's behaviour principles have our Mission Statement as their foundation:

'Our vision is to inspire and grow

a compassionate community of excellence.

A place for our children to shine for God,

for each other, and for themselves'

Our Aims

Deeply rooted in the love of Jesus we are committed to:-

- Creating a happy, healthy and honest school, where everyone feels secure and valued.
- Providing excellent teaching and learning opportunities, which develop independent, confident and resilient life-long learners who can think for themselves.
- Celebrating and supporting all children to unlock and fulfil their unique potential.
- Preparing children to contribute to society with wisdom, hope, tolerance and dignity.
- Living by our school values of Love; Honesty; Courage; Compassion; Determination and Respect.

Expectations

- All members of the school community, at all times, behave in a polite and considerate manner showing respect for themselves, each other and to the school itself.
- Pupils behave in a manner which supports their own learning, and that of other pupils, and does not jeopardise the health and safety of any member of the school community.
- Pupils and staff will not use offensive language, will adhere to behaviour policy and will at all times promote tolerance and respect with regards to disability, age, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation and race.
- That the school's behaviour policy will be applied with consistency and fairness, with regard to each individual situation.
- That the emphasis will be on encouraging positive behaviour through high expectations; the modelling of good behaviour; a focus on learning; and praise and rewards.
- That sanctions, when necessary, will enable the pupil to reflect upon, and learn from, their behaviour and to make reparation wherever possible.
- That each pupil receives behavioural support according to their need.
- That the focus on positive behaviour, forgiveness and reconciliation will significantly reduce the need for exclusion. However, when making decisions the Headteacher must balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider school community and where student behaviour places others at risk, the safety of the pupil body as a whole is paramount. Considering this, the Governing Body support the right of the Headteacher to exclude for a single offence, permanently if necessary, where it is considered that allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of that student or others in the school.
- That given the overriding need to keep the pupils and staff safe, the Headteacher, or appointed representative(s), will utilise their powers to search or use reasonable force in order to keep individuals from harming, or further harming, themselves or others.
- That given our duty of care to the pupils, this written statement and the policies that are influenced by it apply to all pupils when in school, when travelling to and from school, when engaged in extra-curricular activities such as educational trips and visits (residential and non-residential), when being educated as a member of the St Mary's community off-site, when they are in some other way identifiable as a pupil at the school and when whether or not the conditions above apply, that their misbehaviour could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school, poses a threat to or bullies another pupil or member of the public or could adversely affect the reputation of the school.
- That a member of staff who has been accused of misconduct will not be suspended automatically pending an investigation but rather that the Headteacher will follow the procedure outlined in the school's Disciplinary Policy when setting out the pastoral support staff can expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers.