

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING POLICY

Non Sibi Sed Aliis

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119, vs 105

"The Lord is not slow to fulfil his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."
2 Peter 3:9

This policy document and the content contained therein remains the responsibility of the Headteacher and Governing Body of the school. No amendments can be made without their express instructions and they remain the final arbiters in any matters relating to it.

Review Date: Autumn Term 2025

Next Review Date: Autumn Term 2027

Reviewed By: Mrs A Wilson

APPROVED BY THE HEADTEACHER – Autumn Term 2025

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING POLICY		
	Introduction	2
	Rationale and Principles	2
	Context	2
	Inclusion	2
Part One: Roles and Responsibilities		
	Staff Guidelines	3
	Definitions	5
Part Two: How we reward good behaviour		
	Positives System, Reward Trips and Behaviour Curriculum	7
	Wall of Praise, Values Cards, Lower School Rewards Afternoon, Speech Night, Heads of House Letters of Fabulousness	8
	House Cup Challenge, Student roles and responsibilities, End of term assemblies and Silver Griffin	8
Part Three: How we deal with negative behaviour		
	Sanctions and School Support Systems	9
Part Four: Classroom Management Guidelines		
	Expectations of Behaviour and Learning	10
	Behaviour Around the School	11
	Truancy	11
	Other School Rules	12
Part Five: Appearance and Uniform		
	The Booking Slip Card System	12
Part Six: Staged Progression of Referrals		
	Staged Progression of Referrals	13
Part Seven: Behaviour Strategies		
	Detentions	15
	Pastoral Support Programmes	15
	Behaviour Reports	16
	SEND Code of Practice	16
	Interventions	16
	Additional Strategies to Support Inclusion of Students with Additional Needs	16
	Off Site Direction	16
	Inclusion Facility	17
	Alternative Education	18
Part Eight: Suspensions and Exclusions		
	Fixed Term Suspension	21
	Permanent Exclusion	22
	Conduct outside the School Gates	23
Part Nine: Confiscation of Inappropriate Items		
	Confiscation	24
	Serious Incident Book	26
Part Ten: Power to Use Reasonable Force		
	Guidelines/Definition of Reasonable Force and Restraint	26
	Recording and Reporting Serious Incidents	27
Appendix		
	Care and Restraint of Students	29
	Aims and Objectives of the Guidance	29
	Guidelines/Definition of Reasonable Force and Restraint	29
	Procedures for Dealing with Incidents	29

INTRODUCTION

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING POLICY

Balshaw's is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled High School and as a Christian school we believe that each of us is an individual made in God's image. Behaviour is therefore important to us in that we should be the best that we can be in our relationships towards each other and before God

PRINCIPLES

To support the general aims of the school through concern for the various dimensions of discipline:-

- Encouraging high expectations and a sense of purpose within a supportive climate
- Providing relevant curricula to maximise engagement in learning
- Developing teaching / learning styles which pay due regard to differentiation
- Building relationships on trust and respect
- Aiming at values and practices which are coherent and consistent
- Developing and maintaining channels of communication which encourage dialogue
- Recognition that inclusive learning is the responsibility of all staff within the school.

CONTEXT

This Behaviour Policy is linked to other related policy documents e.g.: Safeguarding Child Protection Policy and Procedures, Care and Restraint Guidance, Self-Harm Policy, Acceptable Behaviour ICT Policy, Attendance and Punctuality Policy, Teaching and Learning Policy, Anti Bullying Policy, Equality Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Mobile Phone and Smartwatch Policy, Home School Agreement and Suspension Guidance.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education Act 1996
- Education Act 2002
- Equality Act 2010
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Health Act 2006
- Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019
- The School Information (England) Regulations 2008
- DfE (2016) 'Behaviour and discipline in schools'
- DfE (2021) 'Keeping children safe in education 2022'
- DfE (2021) 'Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in Schools and colleges'
- DfE (2018) 'Mental health and behaviour in schools'
- DfE (2015) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years'
- DfE (2013) 'Use of reasonable force'
- DfE (2018) 'Searching, screening and confiscation'

INCLUSION

- The school follows the Lancashire LEA definition of inclusion as "a process which recognises and values diversity, promotes a shared vision for community cohesion and supports the participation of individuals in the life of the community."
- The mission statement of our school affirms our commitment as a Christian school to valuing the individuality of all of our children. We give all of our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. We do this by respecting and taking account of students' varied life

experiences and needs. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum and have high expectations for all children. The achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children matter. This Behaviour for Learning policy helps to ensure that this school promotes the individuality of all our children, irrespective of ethnicity, attainment, age, disability, gender or background and that students have a common curriculum experience.

PART 1: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

STAFF GUIDELINES

As a Christian community we all share responsibility for ensuring consistent implementation of our policies for behaviour and attendance. We therefore expect all staff who work at Balshaw's to:

- to treat each other with respect. We are far more likely to receive cooperation if we reciprocate and treat children fairly and consistently.
- expect students to dress smartly in school uniform and adhere to school uniform and appearance rules.
- be dressed in a manner befitting our professional status.
- create and sustain a positive, supportive and secure environment with well prepared, stimulating lessons which generate good behaviour and earn respect.
- focus on teaching, learning and raising achievement for all.
- arrive punctually to tutor group, lessons or substitutions as lack of supervision provides opportunities for indiscipline. Avoid leaving lessons with students unsupervised.
- be seen by students to keep an effective check on their attendance at lessons.
- insist on high levels of student attendance and punctuality, on high standards of work, behaviour and appearance. Reinforce school / department / class rules.
- be firm at the outset with all classes and make clear expectations.
- wait until students are quiet before attempting to talk or to give instructions.
- praise and encourage and use the rewards system.
- mark work promptly and constructively. Set meaningful home learning each week
- wherever possible use the least intrusive intervention, particularly for minor offences. Thus, this minimises the disruption to the lesson and leaves you a range of discipline strategies still available. Try to avoid confrontation by offering choices whenever possible and the opportunity to save face (though not at teacher expense).
- be consistent. Avoid any favouritism or becoming too familiar with students.
- When moving around the school apply rules firmly, fairly and positively. Deal with all misbehaviour as to ignore it is to condone it!

HOME - SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

- The Home - School Partnership document is sent to the parents of all new entrants to the school prior to their beginning in Year 7. It also appears in the Student Handbook issued in September of each year to all students. Tutors will sign it on behalf of the school and must check that the student and parental signatures are completed.

GOVERNORS

- The Governing Body will consult with the Headteacher, staff and parents to establish the policy for the promotion of good behaviour and keep it under review (on an annual basis). The Governing Body will ensure it is communicated to students and parents, is non-discriminatory and that expectations are clear. Governors will support the school in maintaining high standards of behaviour. The Governing Body will ensure that the policy is applied consistently and fairly on any basis particularly ethnic or national origin, culture, religion, disability, or sexuality. They will also ensure that Students are listened to and their concerns addressed.

HEADTEACHER

- The Headteacher will be responsible for the implementation and day to day management of the policy and procedures. Guidance on their consistent application forms part of Staff Induction, and is also regularly updated for all staff. Continual Professional Development is provided when staff needs are identified as part of Performance Management.
- The Headteacher will ensure all staff, including teachers, support staff and student teachers, will be responsible for ensuring that the policy and procedures are followed, and consistently and fairly applied. Mutual support amongst all staff in the implementation of the policy is essential so that a high quality learning environment is created in which students develop self-discipline and personal responsibility.

HEAD OF HOUSE

- Head of House will each lead a team of Form Tutors, providing support and guidance to ensure the efficient implementation of school policies. They will monitor the overall academic and personal development of students, identifying students who are failing or underachieving and liaising with subject teachers, Curriculum Leaders and parents as appropriate in developing strategies to deal with this.
- They will make sure parental queries are dealt with promptly and passed on as appropriate.
- They will monitor attendance and punctuality of students in the House, checking attendance on a weekly basis and promptly following up truancy and other problems of non-attendance and providing information on school attendance for the Deputy Head and Attendance Administrative Assistant.
- They are responsible for the efficient maintenance of student records and for making sure that relevant/appropriate information is passed to other staff.
They organise House and Inter-House activities which contribute to a sense of community and the development of student responsibility.

FORM TUTORS

- As a school we aim to strengthen tutorial support by developing the Form Tutor role more consistently as the person who can best get to know all of our students. All Tutors are involved in the Personal, Social and Health Education programme and ensuring that behaviour, attendance and punctuality of their Tutees is monitored and discussed with the child. The Tutor should be kept well informed about concerns of any sort about the individual student.
- Form Tutors will continue to maintain and act on a record of concerns expressed regarding students in their tutor group (whether from subject staff or regarding out of lesson behaviour). It is part of the pastoral role of the Form Tutor to keep an overview, to act on issues arising and refer on to the Head of House when problems are occurring frequently or seem particularly problematic. Up to date information will be required by Head of House in their preparation for all pastoral meetings. Tutors should place students on Form Tutor report if they have any concerns re behaviour low level or uniform issues
- Tutors will efficiently carry out, and where necessary take further action on, administrative duties connected with the tutor group e.g. student attendance and punctuality, monitoring positives and negatives.

CURRICULUM LEADERS

- Their roles as subject leaders give them clear responsibilities for overseeing the teaching and learning styles within their department / faculty, monitoring standards of work and supporting their colleagues with any classroom based issues. Thus, they will play a significant role in the pastoral work of the school in the drive to further raise standards.
- Departmental handbooks will include agreed strategies for the follow up of subject related matters, compatible with the wider school expectations and should cross reference with the Behaviour for

PARENTS

- Parents and carers will take full responsibility for the behaviour of their child both inside and outside of school. They will be encouraged to work in partnership with the school in maintaining high standards of behaviour.
- As a result of clear behaviour structures and consistently applied procedures in school, staff will not make contact with parents in most cases of low level disruption as we feel it is not healthy for the student if they do not have time to learn from their own mistakes. It is more important that students know that for more serious misdemeanours school will inform parents on every occasion. This helps students differentiate and understand when their actions are inappropriate, offensive, rude, hurtful, harmful or dangerous to themselves or others and require a more serious sanction.
- All sanctions are applied after careful consideration and in the case of serious misdemeanours after thorough research into the events that happened in school. Large amounts of Pastoral Staff time is spent ensuring that, to the best of our ability, school has the best possible picture of the event that took place. School staff are in the best possible position to speak to all young people involved in an event or are witness to an event to get the balanced picture of any incident that might have taken place.
- Parents are expected to fully support the school in all sanctions applied to their child as often failure to do so leaves their child with the wrong message. Students will often present events to parents with their own perspective. However, as stated above, the school will have conducted an investigation and parents are asked to accept the information provided by Pastoral staff/SLT as relevant and accurate.
- Parents are also reminded that failure to support the Headteacher's decisions regarding appropriate sanctions for their child only delays the sanction and can, on some occasions lead to the child being suspended from school.
- Parents will always have the opportunity to raise with the school any issues arising from the operation of the Behaviour for Learning policy.
- Parents should be aware that staff may not be able to respond to their concerns via phone or email on the same day but will endeavour to do so within 48 hours.
- It is necessary for **all Parents to make an appointment** to speak to their child's Head of House, Subject Teacher or member of the Senior Leadership Team. Any parent who arrives at school without an appointment will not necessarily be seen at that time due to staff teaching commitments or other staff meetings.
- ***Parents should be aware that any form of verbal or physical abuse towards any member of school staff will not be tolerated.***

STUDENTS

- Students will be expected to take responsibility for their own behaviour at all times on the way to and from school. Once in the school building and grounds at breaks and lunchtimes and in all lessons and will be made fully aware of the school policy, procedures and expectations. Students also have a responsibility to ensure that any incidents of disruption, bullying and any form of harassment are reported. Students should expect to receive a sanction if they do not follow any aspect of the Behaviour for Learning Policy.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the school defines into categories any behaviour which may cause harm to oneself or others, damage the reputation of the school within the wider community, and/or any illegal behaviour. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Misbehaviour is defined as:

- Disruption in lessons, in corridors between lessons, and at break and lunchtimes

- Non-completion of classwork or home learning
- Poor attitude
- Incorrect uniform
- Not taking action to be prepared for school
- Lateness to lessons and school
- Low level disruption and talking in class
- Failure to complete classwork
- Failure to follow staff instructions to complete work
- Failure to follow staff instructions generally
- Rudeness to staff, other students
- Lack of correct equipment

Serious misbehaviour is defined as:

- Repeated breaches of the school rules
- Use of profane language to staff/other students
- Any form of bullying including online bullying defined as behaviour that impacts negatively on others in the following ways: 1. The behaviour is either intended to cause distress or results in significant distress. 2. There is an imbalance of power between the bully and target 3. The behaviour is sometimes repeated.
- Refusing to attend lessons
- Vandalism/Graffiti/Deliberate destruction of school property or another child's property
- Theft
- Fighting
- Smoking (including vaping or e-cigarettes)
- Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory behaviour
- Possession of any prohibited items. These are: -Knives or weapons -Alcohol -Illegal drugs -Stolen items -Tobacco, cigarette papers, nicotine-based products e.g vapes -Fireworks -Pornographic images -Any article a staff member reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the student)
- Harassment –behaviour towards others which is unwanted, offensive and affects the dignity of the individual or group of individuals
- Vexatious behaviour–deliberately acting in a manner so as to cause annoyance or irritation
- Possession of legal or illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco or any other banned item
- Truancy and running away from school
- Refusing to comply with disciplinary sanctions
- Any behaviour that threatens safety or presents a serious danger
- Any behaviour that seriously inhibits the learning of pupils
- Any behaviour that requires the immediate attention of a staff member
- Any behaviour that does not keep the student or other students safe
- Any other behaviours not listed above but deemed to be serious by the Headteacher

Safeguarding – We recognise that changes in behaviour may be an indicator that a student is in need of help or protection. We will consider whether a student's misbehaviour may be linked to them suffering, or being likely to suffer, significant harm. Where this may be the case, we will follow our child protection and safeguarding policy, and consider whether pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate.

Zero-tolerance approach to sexual harassment and sexual violence- We will ensure that all incidents of sexual harassment and/or violence are met with a suitable response, and never ignored. Students are encouraged to report anything that makes them uncomfortable, no matter how 'small' they feel it might

be. The school's response will be: proportionate, considered, supportive and decided on a case-by-case basis. The school has procedures in place to respond to any allegations or concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing. Where necessary all such incidents will be reported to the Police.

Examples of Sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration, or sexual assault (intentional sexual touching without consent) Sexual harassment, meaning unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, such as:

- Sexual comments
- Sexual jokes or taunting
- Physical behaviour like interfering with clothes
- Online sexual harassment, such as unwanted sexual comments and messages (including on social media), sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos, or sharing of unwanted explicit content.

All such incidents will be dealt with swiftly, appropriately, sensitively and will be reported to the Police in conjunction with parental support.

PART 2: HOW WE REWARD GOOD BEHAVIOUR

By using a **REWARD SYSTEM** we aim to set out measures which aim to promote good behaviour, self-discipline and respect for all. We also wish to acknowledge the wide variety of achievements and build a sense of individual self-worth. We want all children to demonstrate our core values of

- Love, Forgiveness, Friendship, Kindness, Truth, Patience, Respect, Humility, Politeness, Compassion, Tolerance, Bravery and Resilience

Some key aspects of this system are:

Positives system

Students will accumulate positive points over the course of the year on Synergy. Parents can also keep track of totals by accessing their child's Synergy. Heads of House use totals to monitor behaviour and praise or intervene where appropriate. Students are eligible for a certificate and award in Assembly when they reach a certain number of points over the year. These totals are:

Certificates for positives

Bronze—250 positives

Silver—500 positives

Gold—750 positives

Platinum—1000 positives

Diamond—1250 positives

Positives are used by all members of staff for: Quality of work / effort and Citizenship, co-operation and involvement in school life, attendance and punctuality, behaviour, progress and attainment.

Behaviour Curriculum

As part of our **Behaviour Curriculum** staff use consistent routines at the start of, during and at the end of lessons to ensure high expectations and a consistent approach across the school. This consistency fosters a positive learning environment. As part of the Behaviour Curriculum students are marked present on the class register with an Attitude to Learning (AtL) code. This code reflects their behaviour, engagement and effort in the lesson. Positives are automatically awarded for students who achieve an AtL score of 1 or 2

Rewards Trip

A Rewards Trip will be held at the end of the Autumn for Lower School students who have achieved varying criteria of success e.g.: excellent attendance in the Autumn term 95% or above, less than 5 negatives, no whole school detentions, excellent punctuality, high numbers of positives, outstanding effort and achievements, no time in Inclusion or suspensions and outstanding engagement in learning and behaviour scores from their tracking reports for Autumn Term.

Wall of Praise

Each term students are nominated by staff for the Wall of Praise. These nominations can be school related for excellent work and behaviour but also for extra-curricular activities, achievements outside of school, attitude, effort or being a good citizen. Students receive a letter home and a certificate in Assembly. Students names are placed on the Wall of Praise, students will receive a certificate in Assembly and Governors are informed too.

Values cards

Our Values cards are used to reward students who we see upholding our core values and ethos through their actions and manners. This is a red card that children keep in their blazer and staff add a signature to recognise the value that has been demonstrated. Four signatures fills the card and the student is then placed into a draw for a reward of chocolate or Afternoon tea with the Headteacher. We encourage and insist on all students using good manners and common courtesy and teach them that manners cost nothing and that sometimes a single act of kindness can change another person's day.

Certificates for Attendance

- Excellent attendance is anything over 97%. Students are rewarded with certificates in celebration assemblies for 100% attendance and 95% attendance or above is one of the qualifying criteria for Rewards Trips. They are also given chocolate rewards for 100% attendance per half term.

Lower School Rewards Afternoon and GCSE Awards Evening

- GCSE Awards Evening is held in November as a formal recognition of student achievements during the previous academic year.
- Lower School Rewards Afternoon is held in July to recognise the best achievements, efforts and behaviour shown in Years 7 -9 during the current academic year. Students are chosen for this based on staff nominations and those with 100% attendance for the year as well as 100% attendance for 1, 2 or 3 years.

Heads of House Letters of Fabulousness

- These are awarded as a written letter of commendation for students chosen by their Head of House and Form Tutors at the end of each term to recognise students who demonstrate being true Balshavians in acting as role models to others, demonstrating kindness and respect, working hard, helping others and generally being outstanding students.

House Cup Challenge

- Every Department in school runs a House Cup Challenge once per term where students are rewarded with positives for participation and prizes are awarded for students who win the challenge for their House. The overall challenge culminates termly with the presentation of the House Cup in formal assemblies for the House who has won the most points in all competitions

Student roles of responsibility

- These include peer chosen ones such as representative to one of the School Councils and teacher chosen ones such as Prefectship, Stewards, House Captain, Head Girl / Head Boy, Sports Captains, Ambassadors, Monitors, Librarians, Eco Committee Representative, School Council Representative.

End of term Celebration Assemblies

- These are held at the end of each term and are led by Senior Leaders in order to recognise the huge amounts of effort, progress, attainment and personal development selected students have made. Vouchers, chocolates, prizes from Departments, certificates and recognition are given to students

for a variety of categories including 100% attendance, Outstanding Attitude to Learning, no booking slips for the term/year, no negatives and demonstrating Balshavian Values.

Silver Griffin

- This is our most prestigious award in school for any House to win. It is awarded to the House with the most points in a year for scholastic merit. It is a solid silver Griffin trophy which is presented on Awards Evening in November each year in our formal recognition of Year 11 GCSE success.

Golden Ticket

- This is an award for students who stand out, work hard, aim high, are super citizens and generally make fantastic progress. They are awarded to students by staff through staff nomination. Staff have 5 golden tickets per half term to give to one child in each year group that they teach. Once awarded students will receive a letter home, a certificate and will be entered into the end of term prize draw for vouchers.

PART 3: HOW WE DEAL WITH NEGATIVE BEHAVIOUR

SCHOOL SUPPORT SYSTEMS AND SANCTIONS

All staff will deal with behaviour issues that prevents students learning and hinders teaching staff from delivering their lessons. We have set out clear guidelines for all students in school so that they know what is expected of them in lessons through the Balshaw's school rules and also what sanctions will be applied should their behaviour be inappropriate. All students feel safe and secure when they know the boundaries for behaviour.

Below is a list of behaviour expectations and sanctions that will be applied when a student breaches these rules. The list of sanctions is not exhaustive and **the Headteacher reserves the right to apply any sanction deemed appropriate for any poor behaviour in school.** We expect that all parents will fully support the decisions made by the school at all times given the thorough investigations that take place looking at each individual set of circumstances and student behaviour prior to any decision being made regarding an appropriate sanction.

Negatives System

To mirror our positives system students will accumulate negatives points over the course of the year on Synergy if they choose to make poor choices in their actions, words or behaviour. Parents can keep track of totals by accessing their child's Synergy. Heads of House use totals to monitor behaviour and praise or intervene where appropriate if a child has accrued a certain level of negatives from class teachers. Students will receive the following sanctions when they reach a certain number of points over the year. These totals are:

3 negs in a day - FT detention
15 negs in a week HOH det
30 negs over a term - HOH det
45 over a term - SLT det
60 over a term SLT det and parental meeting/report
70 over a term - day in Inclusion
80+ over a term - SLT will deal with individual students who reach this number of negatives on a case by case basis

All members of staff will have tried various behaviour strategies prior to sanctions being applied. These include:

- Use of praise and encouragement
- Giving the student opportunities to rectify their poor behaviour
- Moving the student to a different place within the classroom
- Re-directing the student to the task in hand
- Chance systems e.g. names written on board and students have three chances to change their behaviour

There are a number of interventions in place in school that will be used to support students who consistently show disruptive behaviour and often do not respond to the usual range of rewards and sanctions in place in school. At the discretion of the Headteacher certain staff may have the power to apply certain sanctions or extend the power to discipline to adult volunteers for example on a school trip.

PART 4: CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

We all share responsibility for the reputation of the school. The best kind of discipline is self-discipline. Students are expected to follow these rules when in school and when on their way to and from the school.

All Staff are responsible for the care and safety of students in their classrooms. All Staff structure lessons according to the guidelines of the Teaching and Learning policy to ensure a consistent approach for all students.

We want a safe and cared for environment.

- That students move about the corridors quietly, without running, keeping to the left and that they follow all guidelines given for movement about the school.
- That all students enter classrooms only with the permission of a member of staff and follow classroom rules.
- That all students follow the seating plan for individual lessons as directed by individual members of teaching staff
- That no student should interfere with displays in classrooms or around the school.
- That all staff and students keep our school clean and tidy by putting all litter in the bins provided. Chewing gum is not allowed.
- That during the school day students may only leave the school grounds with staff knowledge/permission. Students are required to stay in the school grounds during the lunch break.

Classroom Management - We expect students to:

BEHAVIOUR

- **Arrive to each lesson, smart, on time and ready to learn.**
- **Enter the teaching area in a quiet, orderly manner.**
- **Be on their best behaviour at all times.**
- **Respect each other, their teacher/teaching Deputies and their environment.**
- **Do not swing on their chair or turn around. Sit still and concentrate on their lesson/teacher.**
- **Observe Health & Safety rules in all areas of school.**

LEARNING

- **Listen carefully and follow instructions. Do not talk when the teacher is talking, or others are answering a question.**
- **Check spellings of key words and aim for correct punctuation and grammar. Use Word of the Month where possible in their learning**
- **Bring their laptop to school daily fully charged and be ready for learning**
- **Always write in black/blue pen, underline using a ruler and draw diagrams in pencil. Draw a line through any mistakes.**
- **Keep work neat, books clean, do not doodle in books and always do their best in class.**
- **Bring a school bag daily with books and equipment in**

Inclement weather at Breaks or Lunchtimes - During inclement weather the children stay in the designated classroom areas for wet break/lunchtime with adult supervision. The Hall and Compound are also in use at these times. Duty staff will monitor these. Students are expected to do the following for wet break/lunchtime:

- Behave in a responsible and safe way.
- Follow the school guidelines for eating at lunchtimes and breaks
- Treat the Compound Area with respect and tidy away their own litter as responsible citizens
- Use the bins for recycling
- Avoid the fields for games unless a member of staff has told them the fields are in use
- Listen for the wet lunch bells
- Include other children in their games and ensure no child is excluded
- Return, as quickly as possible, to their classrooms at the end of break/lunchtime.
- Sit on chairs/benches and behave appropriately.
- Respond positively to all adults supervising at breaks/ lunchtimes e.g.: Canteen staff other than their own class teacher.
- Students are expected to respect and look after the fabric of the building. Parents may be asked to pay for damage to the building if wilful damage is used by their child.

Wet break or lunch Year group areas

Year 7 – Dance Studio

Year 8- Hall

Year 9- Hall

Year 10 – Gym

Year 11 – KS4 Restaurant

Playground - All playground areas are supervised by appropriate adults during breaks/lunchtimes. The following areas are to be used by students:

Year 7 – Maths playground

Year 8- Tennis Courts

Year 9 –West Wing

Year 10- Art playground

Year 11- Restaurant and Compound

Students from other year groups should not go onto other year groups playgrounds. Students should report any accidents/ incidents that take place on the playgrounds to one of the adults on duty. Students are not allowed to enter the school building during these times without asking permission.

Toilets

- Children are expected to behave appropriately, respect the privacy of others and maintain a high standard of hygiene. Students must ask permission before going to the toilets if they are leaving lessons. Only students with toilet passes issued with medical evidence will be allowed to leave class to attend the toilet.
- Students should only use the toilet allocated to their Year group only at break and lunch.
- Students should only go in a toilet cubicle on their own and not with others. Sanctions will be given for students found in cubicles together as this is a safeguarding issue or if they are found using another year group toilet
- Toilets should be left clean and tidy as they were found
- Students can access sanitary products from the Pastoral Hub or from the boxes in the toilets
- There is a single use toilet opposite the Headteacher's office for use by children directed to use this by staff. All other students should use the appropriate toilet for their year group

TRUANCY FROM LESSONS

If a student truants a lesson he/she will be required to make up the time in a departmental detention, a Head of House detention or make time up in Inclusion depending on how long or frequent the truancy is. Truancy from several lessons or a lengthy period of truancy from school will result in the student being placed in the school Inclusion Unit for one day.

Leaving school premises at break / lunchtime is not allowed without permission should be referred to Mrs Wilson and is dealt with by an after-school detention.

OTHER SCHOOL RULES

SMOKING/VAPING

In line with Lancashire County Council Policy, Balshaw's has a no smoking policy which clearly identifies all expectations for students with regard to smoking/vaping. Smoking/Vaping is not allowed in school or on the way to or from school. Any student found to be smoking/vaping or within close proximity of others who are smoking/vaping will have sanctions applied. Students must not have any smoking/vaping materials in their possession. This includes electronic cigarettes/vapes and electronic paraphernalia.

Sanctions for smoking a cigarette or e-cigarette/vape include an automatic one day suspension from school, a day in Inclusion on return and phone call to Parents. Persistent offenders may have increased levels of sanctions and a parental meeting.

MOBILE PHONES/SMART PHONES

Balshaw's has a mobile phone/smart phone policy which identifies what is expected of students with regard to mobile phones. Students are responsible at all times for their phones and what they do with their phones. Bullying using a mobile phone will not be tolerated. Any student using a mobile phone in school should use it as directed by the school mobile phone policy. If it is seen it will be seized and held in the school office until a parent collects it. Sanctions will be given for students who use their phones in lessons/school in any way that is deemed inappropriate – this includes taking/posting pictures, phones interrupting learning and videoing lessons. Sanctions will also be applied if a student refuses to hand over their phone to a staff member for any misdemeanour. Please note this list is not exhaustive and each incident will be dealt with on a case by case basis but consistent sanctions will be applied.

Mobile phones/smart watches/electronic games are unnecessary in school. If a student has a mobile phone it is entirely their personal responsibility and must be switched off. If it is seen or used by a student a member of staff has the right to confiscate the item. The same applies to smartwatches if they are used inappropriately in class. This policy applies from the moment students arrive on school grounds and will be in place until after they have left school for the day. Students should not use their phones until they have safely left school grounds

School accepts no responsibility for mobile phones/other electronic devices being lost or stolen whilst in school.

On some occasions where persistent inappropriate use of a mobile phone has taken place the Pastoral Team/SLT may ask a student to hand their phone in to the Pastoral Hub on arrival to school and to collect it at 3:10pm. This will be arranged with the student and parental contact will be made to ensure parents are aware of the difficulties.

The Head reserves the right to forbid students from bringing to school articles which may be potentially dangerous, undesirable or unnecessary valuables. The examples given within this policy are not exhaustive and the Headteacher reserves the right to deal appropriately with any behaviour that contravenes the spirit of the school's behaviour policy

Part 5 -APPEARANCE/UNIFORM – Booking Slip System

We will all aim for a smart personal appearance at all times

The rules on uniform / appearance must be obeyed throughout the school day and on the way to and from school. Outdoor clothing is not to be worn within the school buildings. See our uniform list for the details on our school website under “Uniform and Appearance Policy”.

The Booking Slip card system

The Booking Slip system is used by staff to uphold our high standards of uniform and appearance and to ensure students maintain this. Each student has a Booking Slip Card that they carry in school. If a staff member sees a uniform misdemeanour they will add a signature to the child’s card. 4 signatures results in a whole school detention. Staff will book children on their card for uniform misdemeanours e.g.: shirt untucked, hair down if beyond shoulder length (male and female students), trainers on, no tie, skirt rolled up etc. All staff and students reap the benefit of improvements in uniform and appearance from this system. Loss of card or damage to card also results in the same sanction. It is the responsibility of all students to carry their Booking Slip card at all times and to wear their uniform appropriately and with pride.

Uniform and Appearance

Our aim continues to be to ensure greater consistency in the follow up of students who flout uniform rules or who fail to conform to rules outside of lessons . No items banned from the uniform list should be worn to school. If they are then the Headteacher reserves the right to place students in Social Inclusion at break and lunchtime until the uniform misdemeanour is rectified. **In summary items not permitted in school include boots of any kind, trainers, non regulation school uniform items, false/acrylic nails, false tan, false eyelashes, piercings of any kind, jewellery of any kind (other than a wrist watch), unnatural hair colours or extreme hairstyles are not allowed under any circumstances. Staff will use the Booking Card System to ensure high standards of dress and appearance are maintained throughout the school day. Students may be booked for example for an untucked shirt, rolling up or holding up their skirt to make it shorter, the incorrect footwear or wearing makeup or jewellery.**

Part 6- STAGED PROGRESSION OF REFERRALS

Our aim is not simply to sanction students for poor behaviour choices but to effectively help the student to remedy unacceptable behaviour and help children to avoid repeating the same behaviours in the future.

Subject teachers are responsible for monitoring and following up on student attendance and punctuality to their lessons, for effective lesson planning, coursework and home learning and for follow up of breaches of classroom discipline.

<u>Level 1 - Subject teacher/ Form Tutor follows up with Student</u>	Classroom management strategies include: -Outline of clear staff expectations for individual work/group work etc. Use of seating plans. Students sitting boy – girl. Clear lesson objectives outlined. Clear timings for different tasks/activities.	<u>Suggested actions may be:</u> detentions set by the Subject Teacher an email/phone call/Synergy message to parent/carers. formal discussion with student lesson observations to support staff. withdrawal of student by Curriculum Leader/Second in Department.
---	---	--

	Appropriate level for reading material. Simple help for disorganised students e.g. spare pens/pencils etc. Use of praise to motivate/reward. Recommend home learning club for specific students. May be discussion with student. Verbal warning Break or Lunchtime detention After school detention Award a Negative Behaviour Point with explanation on Synergy Learning conversation at break Learning conversation during form time Phone call home Email home	
<u>Level 2 - Subject teacher formal referral to Curriculum Leader</u>	Subject Teacher at this level in conjunction with Curriculum Leader Departmental detention 1 hour after school or other follow up by Curriculum Leader in support of staff member. Tutor kept informed The Curriculum Leader may contact the student's parents or carers.	<u>Suggested actions may be:</u> contact with parents via Synergy message/telephone/email student temporary suspension from a particular lesson. If this is done by the Curriculum Leader on behalf of a member of department then the student should be supervised by the Curriculum Leader/2nd in Dept and the Head of House informed. student placed on formal subject report.
<u>Level 3 – Head of House intervention</u>	Behaviours that have escalated beyond those outlined above – serious misbehaviours and require a more	HOH detention – 1 hour Referral to SLT for a sanction in the school Inclusion Unit Social Inclusion Time out of class in Pastoral Hub Lunchtime detention Phone call home Email home

	significant sanction	Weekly or daily report Pastoral meeting Student 'on report' to Head of House, focusing attention on the areas of behaviour which need to change. Parental meeting or a meeting to discuss placing the student on a Pastoral Support Programme (PSP) Home-school behaviour contract to help change unsatisfactory behaviour. The Deputy Head (Pastoral) and Headteacher should be consulted before this is carried through.
<u>Level 4– SLT involvement</u>		SLT detention –Friday – 1 hour 15mins Contact home Parental meeting/Placing a student on a Pastoral Support Programme Time in the school Inclusion Unit Social Inclusion at break or lunchtime Pastoral meeting with Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher Fixed term suspension Time in another school's Inclusion Unit Consideration of a Managed Move to another school Referral to the Children's Champion Outside Agency involvement or referral Permanent exclusion Serious misdemeanour would immediately go to this level

No student should be permanently withdrawn from any subject without prior discussion with the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and the Headteacher.

- Out of lessons misbehaviour of students should never be ignored. Some issues do **link into subject areas** and **should be followed up by the subject teacher / Curriculum Leader** e.g. **Student lateness to lesson, misbehaviour in corridor while waiting for a teacher to arrive or while lining up.**
- Other issues should be referred to Head of House / SLT depending on the nature / severity of the problem.

The Headteacher is the final arbiter of all sanctions and decisions regarding student misdemeanours

Part 7: BEHAVIOUR STRATEGIES

DETENTIONS

All staff will follow the staged progression of referrals in the first instance and deal with classroom management issues as appropriate taking responsibility for their own classroom discipline. All teaching staff may detain students at break, lunchtime or after school for a detention. Work completed in detention will be meaningful and appropriate to the student. When detentions are set all staff will take account of the students age, any SEN issues or disability, any religious requirements affecting them whether a student has a caring responsibility at home for a family member or whether the detention would compromise the child's safety.

- **Break and Lunchtime detentions** – If a member of staff issues a detention at break or lunchtime reasonable time will be given for the student to eat, drink and use the toilet before their next lesson commences.

- After School detentions - Although by law parental consent is NOT required for detentions staff will make parents aware of their son/daughter's detention by giving 24 hours notice via a detention slip issued to the student.
- 10 minute after school detentions – These will be carried out at the discretion of the Headteacher although staff are legally allowed to detain students for 10 minutes after school without parental permission.

If a student fails to attend detention a further sanction will be applied.

PASTORAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES - PSP

Balshaw's High School acknowledges that the PSP procedure and process set out by the DfE can be used where a school identifies that it will bring another element to supporting a pupil for whom the normal school based strategies have not been effective. It is a structured, coordinated, 12 week (PSP) or 16 week (PSP+) school intervention designed to support pupils at risk of permanent exclusion. It is not intended to be a step in the process of permanent exclusion

Pastoral Support Programmes are for pupils who are not responding to the normal behaviour strategies, who may be disaffected and who are at risk of permanent exclusion.

This may include pupils who:

- Have had a number of fixed period suspensions (2 or 3 in one term may be a trigger)
- Have low attendance which is impacting on their behaviour
- Are showing signs of rapid deterioration in their behaviour or have been persistently failing to follow school rules or meet school standards
- Are at risk of failure at school through disaffection

Based on the principles a PSP is:

- Is a school based intervention strategy to help a student to manage his / her behaviour better.
- Is for a student whose behaviour is deteriorating rapidly.
- Will identify precise and realistic outcomes for the young person to work towards.
- Will be managed and overseen by the child's Head of House and or Mr Haycocks/Mrs Wilson.
- Will be short and practical with administration kept to a minimum.
- Will be for a student who has had several fixed term suspensions or for a student identified as at risk through failure or disaffection.
- Will not to be used to replace SEND assessment procedures and the Individual Education Plan for a student with SEND and at risk of suspension.
- Will be seen by the LEA that a student is at risk of suspension or permanent exclusion.

SEND CODE OF PRACTICE

Some students require a more sensitive and differentiated approach. Children with serious or repeated behaviour difficulties may need to have an individual behaviour plan in accordance with the Special Needs Code of Practice. We may ask for an assessment from our Educational Psychologist or, with agreement from parents or carers, refer to CAMHS (Child and adolescent Mental Health Service) through our school nurse.

BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

These reports are designed to support and promote positive self-management of behaviours that may be an obstacle to children to maximise their learning potential. The report is designed together with the child and the Deputy Headteacher Pastoral and Heads of House, so that there is mutual understanding about any 'individualised' sanctions or agreements that are put into place. The Heads of House will also then arrange to share this information with staff and parents, so that both home and school are working in partnership. Form Tutors may also place students on report

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT INCLUSION OR STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS:

We understand that some children may need additional support with their behaviour and readily work with them, their parents/carers and outside agencies to support these students. Where necessary the Deputy Head Pastoral will ensure that individual behaviour support plans are in place and liaise with the School SENDCO where necessary.

In addition to this, we want to encourage children to take responsibility for their actions, state clearly what is right and wrong, explain what acceptable and unacceptable behaviour is, and provide a clear, consistent structure for behaviour management throughout the school.

OFF SITE DIRECTIONS

An Off Site Direction to another South Ribble School will be considered as an appropriate way forward for students who fail to improve their behaviour after several sanctions have been applied e.g.: reports, monitoring, phone calls and meetings with parents, detentions, referrals to Outside Agencies, EHAs, Pastoral Support Programme, Behaviour Contract.

The aim of an Off Site Direction is to offer the students the opportunity to have a fresh start in another local school setting and improve their behaviour. The process starts when the direction is discussed with and supported by parents. Official documentation is then completed and sent to the Local Authority Pupil Access Officer who conducts the meetings to discuss student transfers. If a child is offered a place on an Off Site Direction they will complete a meeting with the new school and a start date set if they are accepted. An initial period of six weeks is set to allow the student to integrate. A review will then take place and if all is well a further six week period will follow. After this the host school will take the student on their roll if all are in agreement that the move has gone well. An Off Site Direction can be stopped at any time and the student would return to the school they are on roll at. Until the final meeting the student would be on roll at Balshaw's.

Failed Off Site Directions will result in a parental meeting with school and student and meeting with the Chair of Governors if necessary. Reasons for the failure of the Off Site Direction process will be discussed and decisions made about the future of the student at Balshaw's. Further actions may be taken if there has been no improvement in the student's behaviour.

In order for the student to catch up on all work and assessments missed whilst he/she has been on an Off Site Direction time will be spent in the school Inclusion unit as a sanction for a failed transfer. This will be used for students to catch up on any work they have not completed at the Off Site Direction school, to look at behaviour strategies and to support the student before integrating back into classroom to resume lessons.

Permanent Exclusion and failed Off Site Direction

For some students who fail an Off Site Direction, permanent exclusion may be used if the Headteacher deems it appropriate because of the student failing to modify or improve his/her behaviour and the failure of a number of proactive measures previously offered to the students to help him/her improve behaviour.

INCLUSION FACILITY

Inclusion Unit:

This is a proactive measure used as an internal sanction to avoid any suspension from school when a student has demonstrated significant or repeated poor behaviour

- The aim is to reduce the number of fixed term suspensions and to provide effective follow up of serious /persistent misdemeanours.
- In order to ensure consistency and manageability referrals to the Inclusion Facility can only be made through the agreement of two members of SLT. These will generally be Mr Haycocks (or the Acting

Head) and Mrs Wilson (Deputy Headteacher Pastoral Care and Guidance with an oversight of all pastoral issues and the Inclusion Unit itself).

- A decision will be made on the length of time spent in the Inclusion Unit based on the misdemeanour of the child. The Inclusion Unit runs on a different days weekly but other days may be added dependent upon the numbers of children. Whilst in the Inclusion unit students will complete their normal timetabled work unless it is not possible e.g. practical work.

As part of the process of that day the student involved will be kept isolated from other members of school (except on the occasions the Facility may have more than one student on any one day). The timings of that school day for the student will be 8-30am – 4-10pm. It is essential to recognise that the most positive way of tackling poor behaviours by students is with clear cooperation between school and parents. During his / her time in the Inclusion Facility the student will be set work by the Behaviour Support Officer

Any staff concerns regarding the arrangements for the Inclusion Facility should be addressed, in the first instance to the child's Head of House and then Mrs Wilson or Mr Haycocks.

Whilst in the Inclusion Unit Students should:

- Reflect on their behaviour and plan how to avoid making the same mistake again
- Think about how their behaviour has affected others and begin to make amends
- Work purposefully and independently
- Have no contact with other students unless directed by a member of staff
- Show supervising staff consideration and respect
- Follow the day's schedule as directed including an automatic 1 hour after school detention
- No mobile phones allowed and should be handed in to supervising staff at the beginning of the day.

REFERRAL TO ANOTHER LOCAL SCHOOL'S INCLUSION UNIT

Power to Direct: Governing bodies of maintained schools have the power to direct pupils elsewhere for their education under Section 29 and Section 29 (A) of the Education Act 2002, as amended. Under Section 29, the governing body of a maintained school may require any registered pupil to attend at any place outside the school premises for the purposes of receiving any instruction or training included in the secular curriculum for the school.

Section 29A of the same act allows the governing body of a maintained school to require any registered pupil to attend at any place outside the school premises for the purpose of receiving educational provision which is intended to improve the behaviour of the pupil. This can be done through the use of a notice or direction which the school issues to the parents of any pupil required to attend elsewhere, in order to ensure everyone involved knows and understands the reason for the direction as well as the exact details of dates and times when the pupil should attend the alternative placement along with information on how and when the arrangement will be reviewed. As this is a duty of the governing body, they will be directly responsible for issuing such notices and arranging reviews in each case where they exercise this power unless they delegate this responsibility to the Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

On some occasions it may be necessary to direct students towards alternative forms of education which may be more suitable to their needs. These include places at Shaftesbury House, Preston College or alternative educational providers. These will be discussed by SLT and HOH then Parents will be informed and a meeting will take place to discuss further. This can again be done through the use of a notice or

direction which the school issues to the parents of any pupil required to attend elsewhere which is a legal duty schools have to direct children to Alternative Provision.

Part 8 - SUSPENSION and EXCLUSIONS

There are occasions when it is necessary and appropriate to suspend students for a fixed period, or, in very rare cases, permanently. In most cases suspension will be the last resort after a range of measures has been tried to improve students' behaviour and engender a sense of personal responsibility. Suspension is viewed as the strongest sanction possible and is available to the school only through the authority of the Headteacher.

A decision to suspend a student from school is never taken lightly and should only be taken:

- a) in response to serious breaches of the school's behaviour policy or
- b) if allowing the student to remain in school could seriously harm the education or welfare of the student or others in the school.

In using suspensions as a form of ultimate sanction the school will always bear in mind the value of each individual and make every effort to ensure that suspension is used as a last resort sanction, in the interests of the school community as a whole (and the individual students within it), and as far as possible to bring about a change or improvement in the behaviour of the student who is suspended. For this reason, permanent exclusion is a very last resort in all cases.

The school's use of suspension as a sanction must also be seen by all as an affirmation of its high standards and its expectations that all students will conform to those standards.

Principles

- 1) The school will at all times bear in mind the parents' duty to secure the education of their children and that unless other suitable arrangements are made, all students should be in school and learning and suspensions from lessons will be used.
- 2) The school will use fixed term suspension sparingly in response to serious breaches of school rules or the law of the land.
- 3) The school will take all reasonable steps in the case of all suspensions, (but especially in the case of permanent exclusions or fixed term suspensions of several days) to consider alternative sanctions or ensure that the suspension is the last step in a series of sanctions that have already been applied earlier.
- 4) The school will observe the statutory limit of fifteen days in any one term for fixed term suspensions. The maximum per year is forty five days.
- 5) Suspension will be solely the power of the Head or in his absence the Deputy Head. The role of the Head is crucial. He/She will at all times gain full information available at the time before deciding that suspension is the best option.
- 6) As far as possible the school's overall ethos, its insistence on discipline and good conduct, and the support promised by parents will make suspension an infrequent sanction. Sometimes however, it is recognised that there is no option but to suspend.
- 7) There are clear criteria, procedures and timescales for the use of suspension, set and approved by the Governing body who have set up committees to monitor the use of suspensions, consider all individual cases of suspension, hear the representations of parents and other interested parties and report to the full Governing Body. The Chair of Governors and the LA are informed of all suspensions.
- 8) The school recognises that suspension is not always an appropriate response to every form of behavioural difficulty, and will always have in mind its policies on Equality, Special Educational Needs, Equal Opportunities, Pupil Premium and amongst other factors, the age, health, previous record and family circumstances of the student, as well as the severity of the offence.

- 9) At all times the school will seek to support teachers by its policies and procedures on pastoral care and discipline. It will endeavour to enable them to manage effectively in the classroom by effective induction of new teachers and appropriate in-service training. As far as possible the referral system will allow disruptive students to be removed as appropriate and reinstated as soon as possible after suitable sanctions have been imposed by pastoral staff and the necessary changes in behaviour brought about.
- 10) The school will at an early stage seek to involve the School Attendance Officer, particularly in the case of irregular attendance. The School Attendance Administrative Assistant is a useful link between school and family and can ensure the continuity of learning from the work, which the school sends home for the suspended student. Student support staff will be brought in at an early stage.

Incidents off site resulting in Suspension

Section 89 (5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 states;

(5) The measures which the Headteacher determines under subsection (1) may, to such extent as is reasonable, include measures to be taken with a view to regulating the conduct of students at a time when they are not on the premises of the school and are not under the lawful control or charge of a member of the staff of the school.

In essence the Headteacher has the authority to suspend a student who is not on the school site at the time of the misdemeanour.

The Governing Body will ensure that the Suspension Policy gives the Headteacher the authority to suspend for behaviour that happens away from the school either out of hours, when a student is at another setting or on a school trip.

Sanctions used by a school should be covered in the Behaviour Policy, including use of provision off site, e.g. Respite in another school. This should be supported by a letter of direction to the off-site provision to the parent/carer as per DfE Guidance on Suspension from maintained schools, Academies and Student Referral units in England 2012 (Part 3, para 14).

All teachers have a statutory authority to discipline students for misbehaviour. This includes the power to discipline students when they are not at school or in the charge of a member of staff. This could be as a result of incidents witnessed by a member of staff or reported to the school.

Balshaw's School believes that there is a need for an overall set of objectives for regulating behaviour off the school premises for the following reasons:

- To maintain good order as students travel to and from school, education visits or other placements such as work experience or college courses
- To secure behaviour that does not threaten the health and safety of students, staff or members of the public.
- To provide reassurance to members of the public about school care and control over Students and thus protect the reputation of the school
- To provide protection to individual staff and students from harmful conduct by students of the school when not on the school site.

Balshaw's School will act reasonably both in relation to expectations of student behaviour and in relation to any measures used to regulate behaviour of students when off the school site and not under the lawful control or charge of a school staff member. Balshaw's School will consider carefully what is taken into account in deciding whether a rule or sanction is reasonable and justified. These could include (not all may apply):

- The severity of the misbehaviour

- The extent to which the reputation of the school has been affected
- Related to the above, whether the student(s) in question was wearing school uniform or was otherwise readily identifiable as a member of Balshaw's School
- The extent to which the behaviour in question would have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- The extent to which the behaviour in question might pose a threat to another student or member of staff (e.g. bullying, violence, threats or insulting members of the school community)
- Whether the misbehaviour in question was on the way to or from school, outside the school gates or otherwise in close proximity to the school
- Whether the misbehaviour in question was whilst the student was on work experience, taking part in a college or similar course as part of a school programme or participating in a sports event with another school, where a student might be expected to act as an ambassador for the school, which might affect the chances of opportunities being offered to other students in the future.

FIXED TERM SUSPENSION

The Headteacher may suspend a student for up to 45 school days (nine school weeks) in a school year. For the first five days of any suspension it is the parent(s) carer(s) responsibility to provide care and supervision for their child. After the fifth day the school must make provision for the student. Sometimes school will arrange provision in another local school's Inclusion Unit and this arrangement will be discussed with the parents of the student before commencement.

Students on a fixed term suspension will receive work to complete and return to the school for review. The offences listed below may lead to fixed-term suspension (or isolation – depending on the nature of the incident). This list is not exhaustive and cannot pre-empt all incidents that may occur. All students will complete time in the school Inclusion Unit after a Fixed Term Suspension which runs from 8:30am-4:10pm.

Some of these incidents listed below can lead to permanent exclusion if they are repeated or deemed to be severe by the headteacher.

- Violent or aggressive behaviour, either physically or verbally, towards another student or member of the public either in school, on the journey to or from school, or at any other time; (may include referral to Police)
- Violent or aggressive behaviour, either physically or verbally, towards a member of staff either in school, on the journey to or from school, or at any other time; (may include referral to Police)
- Making false/malicious allegations against a member of staff
- Serious defiance
- Persistent disruptive behaviour
- Racial/sexual/homophobic harassment
- Bullying/Cyber bullying
- Derogatory and/or discriminatory verbal comments/abuse towards another student/staff
- Theft
- Possession of illicit substances or materials (including pornography, cigarettes, vaping materials, over the counter medicines such as caffeine tablets)
- Possession of illegal drugs will result in permanent exclusion (except in very exceptional circumstances)
- Graffiti or property damage (NB: Parents will be billed for wilful damage to property)
- Indecent behaviour towards other students/members of staff
- Bringing or using an inappropriate item in school
- Displaying unwanted sexualised behaviour towards another student or member of staff, including sexual assault
- Smoking

- Failure to follow staff instructions
- Failure to complete time in the Inclusion Unit on the instruction of a parent
- Any other incident of inappropriate behaviour identified by the Headteacher.

Student welfare during a fixed term suspension

1. The student may not go to school or into the school grounds.
2. The school will set work for the student to complete at home during the period of suspension; this will be made available via School Synergy.
3. Parents/carers are responsible for the student during suspension and the student should not be in public places during school hours. Parents can receive a Fixed Penalty Notice with a fine of up to £120 if their child fails to adhere to these conditions during a period of fixed term suspension
4. After day five of a suspension the school will arrange for alternative temporary education – usually at the Student Referral Unit Shaftesbury High School based in Chorley or the student may be directed to attend another school
5. If a student is suspended at lunchtimes and is entitled to Free School Meals then the school can make arrangements for a packed lunch to be provided if parents/carers wish.

PERMANENT EXCLUSION

On rare occasions, the Headteacher may permanently exclude a student from school. The student's parents will always be fully involved and given the opportunity to make representations to the Governing Body. Any student involved with illegal drugs will normally be sanctioned by suspension, either fixed-term or permanent exclusion and the Police and LA informed.

The decision to exclude permanently is a serious one. There are two main types of situation for which permanent exclusion may be considered.

- The first is a final, formal step in a concerted process for dealing with disciplinary offences following the use of a wide range of other strategies, including fixed-term suspension, and or Off Site Directions which have been used without success. It is an acknowledgement that all available strategies have been exhausted and is used as a last resort. This would include persistent and defiant misbehaviour, including bullying (which could include racist or homophobic bullying) or use of an illegal drug on school premises.
- The second is where there are exceptional circumstances and it is not appropriate to implement other strategies and where it could be appropriate to permanently exclude a student for a first or 'one off' offence.

These might include:

- Serious actual or threatened violence against another student or member of staff
- Sexual abuse or assault
- Carrying a weapon
- Arson
- Being found in possession of illegal drugs of class A or B – a policy shared by all schools in South Ribble.
- Distribution of illegal drugs of class A or B
- Inappropriate behaviour outside of school bringing the school into disrepute
- Any other behaviour/action deemed by the Headteacher to warrant a permanent exclusion

Student welfare following a permanent exclusion

1. The student may not come to school or into the school grounds unless invited in
2. Parents/carers are responsible for the child during exclusion and the student should not be in public places during school hours or at the school gates before or after school
3. After day five of an exclusion the Local Authority will arrange for alternative temporary education – usually at the Student Referral Unit Shaftesbury High School based in Chorley.

The Headteacher will take into account all of the circumstances surrounding the incident as well as the wellbeing and welfare of the child, the evidence available and the need to balance the interests of the student against those of the whole school community.

These instances are not exhaustive but indicate the severity of such offences and the fact that such behaviour seriously affects the discipline and well being of the school.

A permanent exclusion may also be used after a student fails a Off Site Direction to another school.

Suspension protocol

Suspensions will be conducted in accordance with the current Department for Education's suspension guidelines. Suspensions will be used (both fixed term and permanent) as a form of sanction.

After the sixth day of fixed period of suspension of more than five consecutive days alternative educational provision will be made available for a suspended student. This will be at provision off site, e.g. Respite in another school. This would be supported by a letter of direction to the off-site provision to the parent/carer as per DfE Guidance on Suspension from maintained schools, Academies and Student Referral Units in England 2012 (Part 3, para 14). If a student is permanently excluded the Local Authority has a duty to provide suitable full time education from the 6th day of the permanent exclusion.

Parents will be informed of a suspension by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral) or a Head of House. A letter will follow explaining the reasons for the suspension and the follow up procedure.

CONDUCT OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL GATES

All duty staff have a statutory power to discipline students for misbehaving outside of school premises. The Headteacher has a specific statutory power to regulate students' behaviour in these circumstances "to such an extent that is reasonable".

Incidents off site

Section 89 (5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 states;

(5) The measures which the Headteacher determines under subsection (1) may, to such extent as is reasonable, include measures to be taken with a view to regulating the conduct of students at a time when they are not on the premises of the school and are not under the lawful control or charge of a member of the staff of the school. In essence the Headteacher has the authority to suspend a student who is not on the school site at the time of the misdemeanour e.g.: a child on a school trip, a student who is off site at another provision or a student involved in an incident on the way to or from school.

Students will be disciplined for misbehaviour when the student is:

- taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity or
- travelling to or from school or
- wearing school uniform or
- in some other way identifiable as a student at the school.

or misbehaviour at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, that:

- could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school; or
- poses a threat to another student or member of the public; or
- could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

In all cases of misbehaviour, the teacher can only discipline the student on school premises or elsewhere when the student is under the lawful control of the staff member. All teachers have a statutory authority to discipline students for misbehaviour. This includes the power to discipline students when they are not at school or in the charge of a member of staff. This could be as a result of incidents witnessed by a member of staff or reported to the school.

Balshaw's School believes that there is a need for an overall set of objectives for regulating behaviour off the school premises for the following reasons:

- To maintain good order as students travel to and from school, education visits or other placements such as work experience or college courses.
- To secure behaviour that does not threaten the health and safety of students, staff or members of the public.
- To provide reassurance to members of the public about school care and control over students and thus protect the reputation of the school.
- To provide protection to individual staff and students from harmful conduct by students of the school when not on the school site.

Sanctions including suspension (fixed or permanent) will apply if misbehaviour takes place on Educational Visits, Work Experience or whilst the student was taking part in a further education sampling course as part of a school programme and may involve parents collecting their child at their own expense. The school will apply sanctions if a student misbehaves whilst representing the school in a sports event with another school or any other event which might affect the chance of opportunities being offered to other students in the future. The school would take action if a student harassed a member of staff or student off school premises, including through the internet. This could also be a police matter. Sanctions may be imposed in line with those set out in this policy.

In the absence of any of the above conditions staff may also discipline students for misbehaviour at any time where the behaviour

- Could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- Or poses a threat to another student or member of the public or could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

Part 9- CONFISCATION OF INAPPROPRIATE ITEMS

The School adheres to the two sets of legal guidelines describing the conditions by which members of staff will confiscate items from students. DFE Statutory Guidance on the Confiscation of Inappropriate items outlines that staff in their general powers in disciplining students have the power to confiscate dispose of or retain a student's property as a punishment.

Under Section 2 of the Education Act 2011, schools have the duty to search, and to confiscate any items which they believe pose a danger or threat to students, or any other persons on school premises. This does not require consent, but wherever necessary this will be sought.

Staff are protected against liability damage to, or loss of, any confiscated items provided they have acted lawfully and reasonably.

Power to search without consent - Staff at school have the power to search students without consent for "prohibited items" which include:

- Knives and weapons and blades of any kind
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Drug Paraphernalia
- Stolen items

- Tobacco and cigarette papers
- Electronic cigarettes
- Lighters
- Pornographic images
- Laser pens
- Fireworks
- Balaclavas
- Any article that has been or is likely to be used to commit an offence, cause personal injury or damage to property; and
- Any item banned by the school rules which has been identified in the rules as an item which may be searched for.
- **Other items deemed by the Headteacher to be unsafe, offensive to others or unnecessary in school.**

Weapons and knives and extreme or child pornography must always be handed over to the police, otherwise it is for the teacher to decide if and when to return a confiscated item or if parents need to collect it. Where any article is thought to be a weapon it must be passed to the police.

These searches will be usually conducted by the Headteacher, Members of SLT and Heads of House who have permission from the Headteacher to conduct such searches. The search details will be recorded pastorally. A member of SLT will always be present on any search conducted in school.

The search will be conducted by a person/individual the same gender as the student, and in the presence of another adult (where possible of the same gender). Students will only be required to remove “outer clothing” such as coats and jumpers. Searches will be conducted in such a manner as to minimise embarrassment or distress. Searching the students’ possessions includes searching a student’s goods over which she has or appears to have control; where there are reasonable grounds, lockers may be searched at any time, without consent, and not in the student’s presence.

Police may be called to deal with any search if that is considered appropriate. The authorised member of staff’s power to search outlined above does not enable them to conduct a strip search (removing more than the outer clothing) and strip searches on school premises shall only be carried out by police officers in accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) Code C.

Refusal to comply with a search request will, of itself, be a disciplinary matter. Every effort would be made to contact parents after the search has been conducted.

It is not necessary to inform parents before or after a search takes place or to seek their consent to search their child. However, all efforts would be made to contact parents, and also where objects are confiscated, parents would be informed.

CONFISCATION

Members of staff at school have the power to confiscate from students in class:

- Mobile phones/smartwatches/iPods/other electronic devices that are deemed inappropriate and may disturb the learning of others. These items will be confiscated if seen by the member of staff and placed in the school office for safekeeping. The student will be issued with a receipt for mobile phones. Parents may then collect the phone at the end of the school day from the school office. (see mobile phone policy)
- Other items will be returned when parents call into school to collect them
- Jewellery e.g.: earrings, necklaces, piercings, wrist bands of any sort, bracelets/bangles. These will be placed in the school office for safekeeping in an envelope with the students name, the date and the member of staff who confiscated the items. They will be returned to the student at the end of every half term OR if a parent/carer comes to collect them.

- Headbands/headphones/hair accessories/other items that are deemed inappropriate will be returned at the end of the school day.
- Any other item that is deemed inappropriate by a member of staff, or that disrupts learning or that is deemed dangerous
- Any item or article that is likely or has been likely to be used to commit an offence, cause personal injury or damage to property
- Any item banned by the school rules which has been identified in the rules as an item that may be searched for

SERIOUS INCIDENT BOOK

The use of this book has been adopted into school practice on the recommendation of the LEA and it is kept locked in the DHT Pastoral's office. It is designed to be part of an efficient system for the maintaining of records, needed to safeguard the interests of both students and staff.

- Where a serious incident has occurred, an entry should be made in the Serious Incident Book as soon as possible. Usually this will be within two hours. Entries in the Serious Incident Book must be completed as **one-line entries**.
- **Where the information is of a particularly sensitive nature, the member of staff recording the information should identify the student by initials or by a code and should put 'Confidential' in the column requiring details of the incident.** (This would certainly apply to Child Protection issues)

PART 10: POWER TO USE REASONABLE FORCE

GUIDELINES/DEFINITION OF REASONABLE FORCE AND RESTRAINT

All staff should be aware of the following definitions:

Reasonable Force - can be used to prevent students from hurting themselves or others, from damaging property or causing disorder. It can mean either passive physical contact (e.g.: standing between students or blocking student's path) or active physical contact (e.g.: leading a student by the hand or arm, or ushering a student away by placing a hand in the centre of the back).

Reasonable force is used for two main purposes – to control students and to restrain them.

Restraint will involve a member of staff physically preventing a student from continuing what they were doing after they have been told to stop. The use of restraint techniques is usually used in more extreme circumstances, such as when two students are involved in a fight and physical intervention is needed to separate them. Physical Control/Restraint- This will involve the use of reasonable force when there is an immediate risk to students, staff or property. Reasonable force may also be used if a disruptive student refuses to leave a classroom situation after being told to do so. Usually in this instance reasonable force would be carried out by a member of SLT and or Heads of House.

Physical Contact Situations in which proper physical contact occurs between staff and students, e.g., in the care of students with learning disabilities; in games/PE; to comfort students. (Circular 10/98 Paragraphs 33 and 34)

Physical Intervention - This may be used to divert a student from a destructive or disruptive action, for example guiding or leading a student by the hand, arm or shoulder with little or no force.

The decision by staff to physically intervene in a situation is down to the professional judgment of the staff member concerned and will always depend on individual circumstances.

Considerations will be made by all members of staff using control or restraint for students with Special Educational Needs or Disabled Students.

School does not require parental consent to use reasonable force on a student that staff deem fall into any category requiring Physical control/the use of reasonable force or restraint.

All members of staff have a legal power to use reasonable force. It will also apply to any member of staff whom the Headteacher has put in charge of students e.g.: unpaid volunteers or parents accompanying students on a school organised visit.

The 1996 Education Act (Section 55O A) stipulates that reasonable force may be used to prevent a student from doing, or continuing to do any of the following:

- Engaging in any behaviour prejudicial to maintaining good order and discipline at the school or among any of its students, whether the behaviour occurs in a classroom during a teaching session or elsewhere (this includes authorised out-of-school activities).
In an instance where a student absconds from a class or tries to leave school reasonable force is only acceptable if a student could be at risk if not kept in the classroom or at school).
- Self-injuring or placing himself or herself at risk.
- Injuring others.
- Causing damage to property, including that of the student himself or herself.
- Committing a criminal offence. In the event of this situation the school will make a professional judgement concerning the involvement of the police
- Physical intervention uses the minimum degree of force necessary for the shortest period of time to prevent a student harming himself, herself, others or property.
- The use of any degree of force can only be deemed reasonable if it is warranted by the particular circumstances of the incident, it is carried out as the minimum to achieve the desired result, the age, understanding and gender of the student, SEN and or disability of the student are taken into account and it is likely to achieve the desired result.
- Wherever possible assistance should be sought from another member of staff before intervening

This form of physical intervention may involve staff: physically interposing themselves between students, blocking a student's path, escorting a student, shepherding a student away in order to safeguard children and maintain good order. Where physical control or restraint has been used a record of the incident will be kept. This record should be made in the school incident book

See separate appendix on Care and Restraint at the end of this policy

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

We hope that parents and carers will not feel the need to complain about the operation of our Behaviour for Learning policy, and that any difficulty can be sensitively and efficiently handled before it reaches that stage by contacting the Headteacher. However, the school's complaints procedures are on our web site. We will send you copies on request. Please contact the School Business Manager. We undertake to investigate all complaints and to notify you of the outcome of investigation within 28 days. We maintain records of complaints for five years after your child has left our school. All complaints about the use of reasonable force or allegations against members of staff will be thoroughly, speedily and appropriately investigated and the Governing Body informed.

The procedure by which parents make representations about the Curriculum is set out by the Education Reform Act and Lancashire County Council. Copies of this procedure are available from County Hall, Preston.

CONSULTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A variety of staff have been consulted in the writing of this policy, Governor Curriculum & Student Welfare Committee, Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral), Heads of House, SENDCo, Teaching Staff, Inclusion Unit Manager, parents and students. Students were consulted via the School Council and Subject

Ambassadors and their consultation helps us meet the National Healthy Schools Standard Criteria on allowing students to have a “voice” in matters that affect them.

We regularly ask parents their views via questionnaires and seek their opinions and views on the effectiveness of the School. The Balshaw’s Association are used by the Headteacher as a sounding board for parents. We firmly believe that consultation with parents is highly important.

This policy will be monitored and evaluated annually by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral) Heads of House and the Governors Curriculum & Student Welfare Committee and the Behaviour Policy Key Issues Working Group to ensure that procedures are being applied fairly and consistently. This reinforces the principle that every member of the school community has a responsibility towards the whole school community. This policy is reviewed regularly and is always available to parents via the school website.

APPENDIX 1: CARE AND RESTRAINT

This guidance has been prepared for the support of all teaching and support staff who come into contact with students and for volunteers working within the school to explain the school's arrangements for care and control. Its contents are available to parents and students. The following statement is also made in the school's prospectus.

"If staff become aware of, or have a need to become involved in, situations where a child may be at risk of hurting themselves or others, or if the behaviour of a child seriously disrupts good order in the school or causes damage to property, staff may need to take steps to intervene physically. In such circumstances staff will follow the school's guidance for dealing with such situations. Any parent wishing to view this guidance may do so on request."

In addition to the prospectus, other school policies, the Home-School Partnership Document and the underlying ethos of the school also illustrate the underpinning values of this guidance, notably that both students and staff have the right to work in a safe environment.

VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

The guidance has been developed in response to the recommendations of Circular 09/10 "The Use of Force to Control or Restrain Students", issued following the enactment of Section 550A of the 1996 Education Act. It also follows the policies of Lancashire Education and Cultural Services Committee. It enables staff to use reasonable force to prevent a student from:

- Committing a criminal offence (or, for a student under the age of criminal responsibility, what would be an offence for an older student);_
- Causing personal injury or damage to property; or_
- Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school or among any students receiving education at the school, whether during a teaching session or otherwise._

To keep in mind the wider context of safety, this guidance should be read in conjunction with other school policies relating to interaction between adults and students. The guidance will be regularly reviewed by the Governors' Student Welfare Committee.

Good personal and professional relationships between staff and students are vital to ensure good order in our school. In conjunction with the Behaviour for Learning Policy, every effort will be made to ensure that all staff in this school clearly understand this guidance and their responsibilities in the context of their duty of care in taking appropriate measures where reasonable force is necessary and are provided with appropriate training to deal with these difficult situations.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GUIDANCE

In school force will generally be used for two main purposes – to control and to restrain students. However, individual members of staff cannot be required to use physical restraint.

The application of any form of physical control places staff in a vulnerable situation. It can only be justified according to the circumstances described in this guidance. Staff, therefore, have a responsibility to follow the guidance and to seek alternative strategies wherever possible in order to prevent the need for physical intervention. Reasonable force will only be used as a last resort when all other behaviour management strategies have failed or when students, staff or property are at risk.

GUIDELINES/DEFINITION OF REASONABLE FORCE

All staff should be aware of the following definitions:

- * Control can mean either passive physical contact (e.g.: standing between students or blocking student's path) or active physical contact (e.g.: leading a student by the hand or arm, or ushering a student away by placing a hand in the centre of the back)
- * Restraint will involve a member of staff physically preventing a student from continuing what they were doing after they have been told to stop. The use of restraint techniques is usually used in more extreme circumstances, such as when two students are involved in a fight and physical intervention is needed to separate them.
- * Physical Contact Situations in which proper physical contact occurs between staff and students, e.g., in the care of students with learning disabilities; in games/PE; to comfort students. (Circular 10/98 Paragraphs 33 and 34)
- * Physical Intervention This may be used to divert a student from a destructive or disruptive action, for example guiding or leading a student by the hand, arm or shoulder with little or no force.
- * Physical Control/Restraint. This will involve the use of reasonable force when there is an immediate risk to students, staff or property. All such incidents must be recorded. An entry will be made in the School Serious incident Book.

TO WHOM DOES THIS GUIDANCE APPLY

In this school the staff to which this power applies are

- all teachers and non-teaching staff in the school.
- Any other person whom the Head has authorised to have control or charge of students.

Staff and anyone else authorised by the Head will use reasonable force and restraint strictly within the guidelines of this and other school policies.

Authorisation is not given to

- volunteers or parents, except in exceptional circumstances as defined by the Headteacher or when in loco parentis.
- It does not include any students.

The power may also be used where the student (including a student from another school) is on the school premises or elsewhere in the lawful control or charge of the staff member (e.g.: on a school visit/trip)

External Support Services will have their own policies of care and control of students but service staff will, whilst on school premises, be expected to be aware of and operate within the guidance of this school.

Training for all staff will be made available and will be the responsibility of the Headteacher. Arrangements will be made clear as part of the induction of all staff.

Policy Updated:
September 2022

December 2022
September 2024
September 2025