



Birdsedge

First School

Behaviour Policy

September 2026

The Staff and Governors are mindful of the responsibility of Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 which requires governing bodies to 'exercise their functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children'.

Rationale:

At Birdsedge First School, we aim to provide a safe and happy environment where both personal and emotional development, as well as physical and intellectual development are promoted and supported. Having both discipline and good learning behaviours are key to achievement and ensuring all pupils can reach their full potential.



Aims:

To ensure all children feel safe in an environment they can thrive in, we aim to:

- Develop within each child, a personal code of behaviour where consideration for others, sensitivity, truthfulness and integrity, are firmly valued, whatever the ability, sex, race or religion.
- Actively promote Fundamental British Values throughout school.
- Promote positive behaviour management with systems of rewards, celebrations balanced with clear boundaries that support children to think and improve their behaviour.
- Praise and support each other to develop self-esteem and recognise good behaviours for learning
- Deal quickly and effectively, positively, sensitively and discreetly with any behaviour issues - keeping in mind the dignity and welfare of all concerned.
- Eradicate and deal quickly and effectively with bullying behaviours
- Encourage and help the children to take responsibility for their own behaviour and actions through developing a positive growth mindset.

The maintenance of discipline within the school is the responsibility of all school staff and is outlined within the framework of this policy. It is important to us that children, parents and staff at Birdsedge First School work together, within our school values, to ensure that our school is a safe place where children are able to learn and teachers are able to teach.

Birdsedge Behaviours



Our Birdsedge Behaviours are the main values that underpin this policy, our behaviour strategies and expectations.

Each class will discuss the school behaviours in an age appropriate way as a foundation for discipline in the classroom and personalise how this is displayed and reinforced day to day.

School Rules and Expectations

These apply throughout all the school day, including before and after school, all playtimes including outside, lunch time and wet playtimes:

- Children should arrive at school on time and with appropriate equipment.
- Around all areas of the school, we expect children to move in an orderly fashion with due care and consideration for others and for school property. A quiet atmosphere and sense of purpose should be maintained. Children should be ready to learn as soon as they enter the school building.
- Children walk from the classroom and line up showing that they are ready to leave the building for play time. They walk to the designated exit and are let into the playground by the adult on duty. At the end of play time, the whistle is blown once for child to stop and be silent, then a second time for children to walk to their class line ready to be led back into school by their teacher. Children are expected to walk through the playground and remain walking in the school building.
- School uniform must be worn and equipment for school (PE kit, book bag, reading books) should be present every day.
- Children speak to and interact with all members of the school community with respect and in accordance with the school values. Adults in school will interact with each other and with the children in a respectful way.
- Children raise their hand when wanting to contribute, share or ask a question in whole class learning sessions and assemblies. Although other agreed systems may be agreed with classes by their teacher to allow for development of teaching pedagogies around engagement.
- Individual Class Rules are negotiated to reflect the school values and expectations at the beginning of each school year and teachers plan time to support children to learn and understand these positively.

Whole School Reward System

As a school we take a positive approach to behaviour. The following rewards are used frequently throughout the school:

- Verbal praise
- Stickers
- Rewards in weekly celebration assemblies
- House Points with weekly house challenges linked to learning and behaviour leading to a half termly winning house
- Personalised whole class rewards agreed and established each year as part of transition
- Weekly House Reward Time of 30 minutes every Friday

- Displaying work
- Informing parents – through phone calls, messages & directly speaking to on collection.
- Opportunity to tell and share with other staff eg the Head Teacher

Celebration Assemblies

Each week a Celebration assembly is held to which parents are invited. Each class teacher chooses 1 pupil to discuss and celebrate what is wonderful about them. Children are also invited to bring in certificates and badges from their out-of-school activities and share their accomplishments.

How we discourage poor behaviour

All staff discourage poor behaviour in a variety of ways and are mindful of child/staff dignity and well-being when dealing with an issue. We encourage the use of low key cues to prevent the escalation of poor behaviour. It is expected that the following cues will be used frequently by adults working in the classroom:

- Tactical ignoring
- Praise and positive reinforcement
- Looking in the direction of the pupil
- Moving closer to the pupil
- Use of distraction
- Reminding the whole class of the rule or expected behaviour
- Adults will model the desired behaviour eg an ETA may sit with a child to show them what is expected.

In addition to our policy of rewards and stepped boundaries, it is also important that we note changes in a child's behaviour. The changes may take a variety of forms. If we are concerned about a child it is important that we:

- Liaise with the parent/carer as soon as possible
- Inform the Head Teacher
- Inform the Out of School Club Leader if appropriate
- Monitor and record details of the child's behaviour

There may also be implications where the Anti-Bullying Policy links to the school Safeguarding Procedures and practice.

When low key strategies have not worked effectively and undesirable behaviour continues, there are set classroom boundaries that take place in a specific order to ensure all parties involved know what will happen if rules are not followed.

Classroom Sanctions

Low Level Cues: Looking in direction of child.

Step 1: Rule Reminder. Reminder of the rule that should be being followed. In a supportive and positive way.

Step 2: Verbal warning. A clear and firm warning of why the rule needs to be followed.

Step 3: Time Out. Given a short few minutes time out in a quite space, to be calm and have a 1:1 discussion

Step 4: Missed play time. Some of Playtime with staff member for reflection and support. Parents will be informed.

Step 5 (or dangerous behaviour): Removal from class. Time out of class, with Headteacher so everyone can be safe and support given to address the behaviour. Meeting with parents arranged to create a personalised plan for moving forwards.

Those children who reach step 4, will be recorded each week as a log so this can be monitored and intervention put in place proactively if this occurs regularly. Each week, children will have a discussion with SLT during Friday Reward Time to help them understand their behaviour, know clearly what expectations are and be supported for the week ahead in a restorative way.

Behaviour Plans

In the case of repetition of steps 4-5 it will be acknowledged that additional support for behaviour is needed. A meeting with family will be set up and a personalised plan created to monitor and support behaviour. The plan will be led by the Headteacher, with regular reviews to keep families informed.

Exclusion

When previous procedures are not effective further sanctions may be needed. A child may be removed from their class for a fixed time period. Also, following an extreme incident, for example very high levels disruption or danger to others, then the child will be removed from their class and supported by a member of staff. A formal meeting with a parent must be arranged as soon as possible, at the convenience of the Headteacher. They will then be supervised outside the classroom with an ETA or in another class including unstructured times. In exceptional or repeated circumstances, verbal or physical abuse or violence will result in exclusion from school.

Please see appendix 3 for further information regarding suspensions and permanent exclusions.

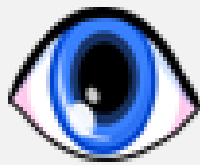
Break Times

The 5 steps will be used in the same way during playtimes to ensure consistency in the management of behaviour. Step 3 time out will be with an adult outside. Step 4 will be supported by Headteacher/Teacher so that the child can have some time away from the playtime and support to get back on track. Dangerous behaviour or incidents of purposefully hurting other children will be treated at Step 4 so that intervention can happen and the safety of everyone is ensured.

Monitoring and Review

1. Every week, staff briefings will have time allotted to discuss behaviour of specific children, alongside H&S and Safeguarding.
2. Each term an opportunity will be given to staff to discuss issues arising from the operation of the policy.
3. The Head Teacher will monitor the policy in practice.
4. The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.
5. A report will be given to the Governing Body termly

Low Level Reminder



Look

The adult will look in my direction to help me.

Step 1



Rule
Reminder

The adult will remind me of the rule I should be following

Step 2



Verbal
Warning

The adult will give me a warning of what will happen if I choose to not follow the rule

Step 3



Time Out

I will be given some time out in a quiet space to help me make the right choice

Step 4



Missed
Playtime

I will need to miss playtime to give me time to think about how I can mend my mistake

Step 5



Removal
from Class

I will be removed from class and a meeting arranged with my family so I can be supported with my behaviour.

Birdsedge Behaviours



Respectful

- Listen respectfully and actively to all
- Move through and around school with calm and respect
- Join in learning and try my best
- Use my hand and take turns to speak



Kind

- Speak politely to everyone with kind words
- Use kind hands and feet always
- Take turns and share
- Treat spaces and resources with kindness



Helpful

- Think of others before I act
- Behave with empathy and have understanding for all needs
- Know that we are a team and need to work together



Responsible

We all have a responsibility to follow our Birdsedge Behaviours.

There will be logical consequences when anyone does not follow this responsibility so we can mend and move forward together.

If...

Then...

I break something



*I mend it
(things and feelings)*

I do not show self-control



I will take a break

I misuse something



*I will have it taken away
and be supported to earn it back*

I do not improve my behaviour



*I will need to have a
behaviour support plan and
work hard to get on track*

Appendix 3 – Suspensions and permanent exclusions

Good behaviour in schools is essential to ensure that all pupils benefit from the opportunities provided by education. The government recognises that school exclusions, managed moves and off-site direction are essential behaviour management tools for headteachers and can be used to establish high standards of behaviour in schools and maintain the safety of school communities.

Suspension and permanent exclusions are used as a consequence and we follow the Department for Education guidance, which is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

The decision to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil can only be made by the Executive Headteacher, Head of School or the person deputising for a headteacher in his or her absence.

Length of suspensions

We will always attempt to ensure that suspensions are for the shortest time necessary and will follow Department for Education guidelines which suggest that a period of 1 – 5 days is often long enough to secure the benefits of exclusion without adverse educational consequences. If a pupil reaches 45 days suspension within an academic school year, they will be at significant risk of permanent exclusion.

Should a suspension be issued, school will:

- Inform parents/carers immediately of the suspension
- Inform parents/carers of their responsibility to ensure that their child is not present in a public place in school hours during the first five days of any fixed term suspension or exclusion
- Provide work to be completed at home and ensure that work completed while excluded is marked and the pupil receives appropriate feedback. This may use the resource from online packages such as Oak National Academy.
- Provide full-time education (off-site) from the 6th day of any period of suspension of 6 days or longer where a permanent exclusion has not been processed
- Work in partnership to improve behaviour
- Arrange a reintegration meeting following the expiry of a suspension (pupils will not return to mainstream lessons until a successful reintegration meeting has been completed).
- Inform local authority partners where a pupil has an allocated social worker.

Actions following a suspension

Pupils returning to school from a suspension are required to attend a reintegration meeting alongside their parent/carer. This meeting will reset the behaviour expectations of the school. During a reintegration meeting, a target card to monitor behaviour and/or a behaviour contract will be discussed. All pupils returning from a suspension will be placed on a target card. They will also spend some time working with a member of the pastoral team on their return to school, prior to returning to lessons.

Permanent Exclusions

Permanent exclusion from school is a last resort when all attempts to modify a pupil's behaviour have failed. At this point, the pupil will not be conforming to school rules and his/her behaviour will be having a serious impact on the learning of others. Permanent exclusion could also be used for particularly serious incidents including, but not limited to, dealing in illegal substances or assault on a member of staff. The statutory guidance on '[School suspensions and permanent exclusions](#)' shall be followed at all times.

A decision to exclude a pupil permanently should only be taken:

- in response to a serious or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy; **AND**
- where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

Where this decision is taken, Heads of school will take reasonable steps to ensure that work is set and marked for the first five days where the pupil will not be attending an alternative provision. This decision will only be made by the Executive Headteacher and then has to be considered by the Governors' Disciplinary Committee.

The Executive Headteacher has the right to withdraw any permanent exclusion which has already begun, as long as it has not yet been considered by the governing body. Where this happens, the following will take place:

- All appropriate stakeholders will be notified immediately, including the local governing body and the local authority
- Parents will be able to meet the school's Executive Headteacher to discuss the cancellation

The pupil will be allowed back into the school with appropriate support