

Written Statement of Behaviour principles.

The Governing Body of St Joseph's RC High School is charged with the duty to set the framework of the school's behaviour policy by providing a written statement of general principles relating to behaviour and discipline, taking into account the needs of all staff and students. The purpose of this statement is to give guidance to the Headteacher in drawing up the behaviour and discipline policy by stating the principles which the Governors expect to be followed. The policy aims to underpin the Governors' duty of care to students and employees; promote teaching and learning and high standards of attainment and preserve the reputation of the school. The statement is available upon request from the school and can be found on the school's web site.

Given that our school is founded on the consistent application of long-established practice, this statement and the behaviour policy will be reviewed every two years, unless changes at national or local level necessitate an exceptional review.

Our school's behaviour principles have our Mission Statement as their foundation: where we use Jesus Christ as our role model in which every member of our community contributes to a caring environment where we can develop our potential and celebrate our talents. Our aim is to develop students and guide them on their journey through Spiritual, Moral and Cultural development, using the Gospel Values of Dignity and Compassion, Truth and Justice, Forgiveness and Mercy to underpin everything we wish to achieve at St Joseph's:

"Jesus Christ is our family role model.

Opening our hearts and minds to dream the impossible and achieve beyond our wildest imagination.

Everybody is valued, nurtured and respected.

Young and old will journey together to build God's Kingdom.

Striving for academic excellence and celebrating success in all we do."

Our Principles

- 1 To recognise that each individual, student or member of staff, is a unique creation in the image of God, and deserves to be valued equally.
- 2 That all will actively promote equality irrespective of race, gender, age, sexuality, religion or disability.
- 3 To follow Christ's example by providing a living testimony to the goodness and presence of God and so to prepare our students for a fuller participation as followers of Christ in the life of their community.
- 4 To provide full opportunity for our staff and students to develop their individual talents and build a strong foundation for their future.
- 5 To develop effective leadership throughout all levels and to use this to create a successful teaching environment where the high expectations of students, staff and Governors are met.
- 5 To promote positive behaviour that permeates throughout the school.
- 6 To develop a whole school approach to behaviour management.
- 7 To promote the self-esteem of each individual, self-discipline, resilience and personal responsibility for actions taken.
- 8 To be an inclusive environment which provides support for the learning and emotional needs of all students.

- 9 To maintain the entitlement of staff to dignity, respect and a safe workplace to teach to the best of their ability.
- 10 To support those students whose learning is negatively affected by the behaviour of others.
- 11 To reward positive behaviour and to make known the consequences of unacceptable behaviour.
- 12 To promote courteous and polite behaviour to each other, to all staff and visitors both in and out of school.

Expectations

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

for the orderly running of the school, poses a threat to or bullies another student or member of the public or could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

- That in all circumstances the Headteacher will consider whether it is appropriate to notify the police or the anti-social behaviour coordinator in the Local Authority of the actions taken against a student and that if the behaviour is criminal or poses a serious threat to a member of the public, the police should always be informed. In addition, staff should consider whether the misbehaviour may be linked to the child suffering, or being likely to suffer, significant harm. In this case the staff should follow the school's child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

References

The latest versions of DfE policy used including the guidance used in the development of this statement can be found at

www.education.gov.uk/schools/studentssupport/behaviour.

These include:

Ensuring good behaviour in school;

Guidance for Headteachers and school staff on behaviour and discipline;

Guidance for Governing Bodies on behaviour and discipline:

Use of Reasonable Force;

Screening, Searching and Confiscation;

Preventing and Tackling Bullying;

Statutory Guidance and Regulations on Exclusion;

Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against teachers and other staff.

Equality Act 2010