

THE PARK SCHOOL, YEOVIL

Behaviour Policy

At The Park School we believe that it is important to create an environment in which staff can teach and pupils and students can learn. This belief is based on the clear values of respect, fairness and inclusion, underpinned by the words of Jesus Christ, "My command is this: love each other as I have loved you....." (John 15: 12). The School values good behaviour and seeks to create systems which will minimise and address appropriately all forms of unacceptable behaviour.

AIMS

- To promote good behaviour, self-discipline and respect, and show the place of rewards and sanctions
- To promote good behaviour as the essential ingredient to an orderly environment in which effective teaching and learning can take place.
- To encourage a caring and orderly environment based on Christian principles.
- To improve the way in which the school community works together to solve problems and to strengthen the partnership between home and school.
- To encourage a sense of responsibility and self-discipline in every pupil.
- To have a consistent approach to behaviour management.
- To provide strong school leadership and classroom management.

All Staff, Pupils and Students have the following basic rights to:

- Teach or learn without distraction or disruption.
- Be respected and receive fair treatment (this includes their property as well as themselves).
- Feel safe at school.
- Be treated with dignity and respect.
- Be listened to.
- Be able to explain their feelings.
- Be treated politely.
- Receive recognition for their achievements.

In having such rights it is important that all members of the school community are responsible in:

- Being kind, caring, sharing, not hurting one another by what they do or what they say.
- Being polite.
- Protecting the most vulnerable.
- Respecting other students.
- Respecting adults.
- Earning trust.
- Praising each other.
- Taking responsibility for their own actions and belongings

In fulfilling our rights and responsibilities there are expectations made of the School, Parents and Pupils and Students.

Expectations made of the School are:

- Jane Huntington is appointed and responsible specifically for behaviour management issues
- Respect each pupil as an individual.
- Provide a safe school environment.
- Provide a full, balanced and appropriate curriculum.

- Educate each pupil to fulfil his/her potential. Set regular and relevant homework and ensure that it is marked.
- Provide information about Pupil progress and offer regular meetings with parents.
- Ensure that pupils and students are prepared and entered for appropriate examinations provided they have satisfactorily completed the required course.

Expectations made of the Parents are to:

- To encourage a positive attitude to school and a high standard of behaviour, in accordance with school policy.
- To ensure your son/daughter attends school regularly and punctually, with appropriate uniform and equipment.
- Have due regard for the Home-School Contract
- Ensure that the school is notified of any absence by telephone and that this is confirmed in writing when the pupil returns to school.
- To monitor progress, attitude and behaviour in conjunction with the school.
- To inform the school about any issues or concerns that might affect performance at school.

Expectations made of the Pupils and Students are:

- Follow the school rules as printed in the school planner and displayed on the website.
- Work to their full potential.
- Be polite and co-operative at all times.
- Complete and submit homework and other assignments on time.
- Always complete the school planner by entering homework regularly as set, using it to plan for deadlines and to get a parent to sign it weekly.
- Dress in the full school uniform, including that which is stipulated for P.E. and Games.
- Attend school regularly and punctually.
- Treat all facilities and equipment carefully and with respect.
- Move about the school in an orderly and quiet manner.
- Treat all members of the school community with respect.
- Behave in accordance with the school behaviour policy.
- Drugs, weapons, alcohol and smoking are strictly forbidden in school.

Expectations made of Pupils in the classrooms:

1. Do their work as well as you can.
2. Allow others to do their work.
3. Treat other people with respect.
5. Bring correct equipment to all lessons including the school planner.
6. Be punctual

INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Parents and Guardians who accept a place for their child at The Park School undertake to uphold the school's policies and regulations, including this policy when they sign the Parent Contract. They will support the school's values in matters such as attendance and punctuality, behaviour, uniform/dress and appearance, standards of academic work, extra-curricular activities and homework/private study.

We are always happy to consider suggestions from parents and hope that you find the school responsive and open-minded.

Unexplained Absences

We will always telephone the home on the first day of an unexplained absence in order to make sure that your child has not suffered an accident. Please note that it is the Governors' policy usually not to allow holiday to be taken during term.

REWARDING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

It is important to acknowledge good achievement, positive behaviour and regular attendance.

- All staff are expected to praise pupils and students with frequent use of encouraging language in lessons and around school so that positive behaviour and regular attendance is recognised.
- Merits are awarded to pupils and students for achievement and effort in the curriculum, in behaviour and in acts of service for the whole school.
- On achieving certain levels of merits, pupils receive, usually in assembly, badges or certificates according to their age. All merits are used in the School's House System together with Head teacher's Report and Work Commendations. For full details refer to the School's **Rewards Policy**.
- Successes, whether achieved in school or out, will be recognised in assemblies.
- Following the publication of grades for attainment and effort each half term tutors or heads of department may send home letters or postcards of congratulations.
- Displays of work are used to encourage pupils who have made real effort and this is an important way in which the school recognises success.
- Prizes are awarded at the end of each term to House Captains for attainment, effort and service.
- The School Newsletter, published each week, also highlights achievements across the school.

Efforts are made to create a climate where praise and encouragement outweighs sanctions and punishments.

SANCTIONS (see also The Park School **Sanctions Policy**)

Effective sanctions are designed to promote positive behaviour and attendance. At all times it should be made clear to the pupil that it is his/her behaviour that is unacceptable, not the person. Escalation to severe sanctions at an early stage should be avoided; these should be reserved for the most serious or persistent behaviour. Whole group sanctions that punish the innocent as well as the guilty should be avoided. Individual circumstances should be taken into account.

In applying sanctions, especially those with serious consequences, we undertake to take reasonable steps to avoid placing children with a disability at a disadvantage compared to children who are not disabled. Reasonable adjustments are made for pupils with special educational needs.

Unacceptable behaviour or poor attitude could result in one of the following sanctions:

- Spoken rebuke.
- Loss of privilege or free time (lunch time or after school detention).
- Being placed on report.
- Letter sent home.
- Discussion between parents, pupil and members of staff.
- Withdrawal from normal lessons.
- Reprimand from a senior member of staff.
- Temporary or permanent exclusion.

All members of staff are encouraged, where possible, to give pupils a choice when they are engaging in undesirable behaviour; they can do as the teacher asks and comply with the school rules, or face the consequence, a sanction. All incidents involving indiscipline must be recorded on an Incident Slip and the member of staff is to follow the procedure outlined in **The Incident Slip Policy**.

The need for consistency of approach among staff is very important. Sanctions will only work if all staff adopt one set of standards and rules and ensure that these apply to all pupils and students.

DETENTIONS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Pupils may be detained during their breaks or lunchtimes, with the proviso that time is allowed for them to eat lunch and visit the toilet.

DETENTIONS AFTER SCHOOL

A teacher may detain a pupil without notice for 5 minutes at the end of the day, but must contact the Tutor that a child is being detained so that s/he can be recorded in the register. The school will give at least 24 hours written notice of a longer after school detention. Although not an exhaustive list the following behaviours are inconsistent with the expectations of the School:

- Lack of punctuality.
- Truancy.
- Refusal to work.
- Disobedience to staff.
- Disrespect for property.
- Malicious damage.
- Theft.
- Bullying.
- Violence.
- Physical, verbal, racist abuse.
- The introduction or use of tobacco, alcohol or illicit drugs.
- The introduction of knives or other dangerous implements.

Classroom teachers use a variety of strategies and sanctions to modify behaviour that inhibits both the pupil and other pupils' learning. If strategies used in the classroom are not successful and the pupil is not compliant then it will be necessary to remove student(s) from the lesson in order that other pupils can continue to learn in a calm and orderly environment. In this case the teacher is to send a conforming pupil with a note to a senior member of staff informing the senior member of staff that a naughty child is being sent to them with work set. (In this way a naughty pupil cannot hide away in a cloakroom etc). The incident must be recorded on an Incident Slip, and a punishment set.

Students who persist in undermining good order and discipline in specific subjects will be referred to the Head, deputy head or senior teacher to encourage behaviour that is appropriate for learning to take place.

The Head teacher will take the decision to exclude a pupil in response to a serious breach of the school's behaviour policy or in allowing the student to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school or the reputation of the school. Permanent exclusion is not a decision that is taken lightly. It is a serious decision and will normally be the final step in a process for dealing with breaches of discipline. The school will seek to use a range of strategies to manage indiscipline. However, there are exceptional circumstances where, in the Head teacher's judgment, it is appropriate to exclude a pupil permanently for a first or 'one off' offence. Such circumstances might include:

- a) Serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff.
- b) Sexual abuse or assault.
- c) Supplying an illegal drug.
- d) Carrying an offensive weapon.

Serious offences affect the discipline and well-being of the school community and in cases where the Head teacher has permanently excluded a pupil for:

- a) One of the above offences; or
- b) Persistent and defiant misbehaviour including bullying (including racial, religious, cultural, sexual/sexist, homophobic, special education needs, disability and cyber) or repeated possession and /

or use of an illegal drug on school premises. In the case of a bullying incident, the procedure is stated in **The Anti-Bullying Policy**, however, in the case of severe and persistent bullying the potential punishment will be permanent exclusion from the school. (see also **Discipline and Exclusions Policy**)

BEHAVIOUR OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Pupils and students' behaviour outside school on school business – for example, on school trips, away sports fixtures, or work experience placements – is subject to the School's behaviour policy. Bad behaviour in these circumstances should be dealt with as if it had taken place in school. For poor behaviour outside school, but not on school business, the Head teacher may exclude a pupil if there is a clear link between behaviour and maintaining good behaviour and discipline among the pupil body as a whole. This will be behaviour in the immediate vicinity of the school or on a journey to and from school and can be grounds for exclusion.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other related policies;

- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Anti-Bullying
- Complaints Procedure
- Discipline and Exclusions
- Disability Policy
- Equal Opportunities
- Sanctions

Approved by the Governing Body - 17 May 2010