

St John the Baptist C.E. (Aided) Primary School

Written Statement of Behaviour Principles

The Education and Inspectors Act 2006 and DfE guidance (Behaviour in Schools, 2012) requires the Governors to make and frequently review, a written statement of general behaviour principles to guide the Head teacher in determining measures to promote good behaviour.

This is a statement of principles, not practice.

Practical application of these principles are the responsibility of the Head teacher and of all school staff.

The Governors at St John the Baptist C.E. (Aided) Primary School, believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school and enable children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life. We believe that our practice around behaviour should not just ensure that we create a community that is safe for everyone, but that we should also encourage and develop behaviour traits that will serve youngsters well as they move into adulthood.

At St John's, we value everyone as an individual, capable of growth, change and development. To ensure this is the case we have a series of principles that we expect will underpin much that goes on in school.

Our principles

- Everyone who is part of our school community has the right to a safe, secure, caring and happy learning environment.
- We want to ensure that everyone values and respects themselves and each other.
- We will encourage children to foster a sense of enquiry and develop questioning skills.
- We aim to ensure that high expectations are held by all in both work and behaviour.
- We believe in fostering positive relationships and developing partnerships between parents, staff and children, and also across communities outside of school.
- We embrace diversity and promote equal opportunities and inclusion for all.
- We encourage self-esteem and confidence in both independent and collaborative learning.
- We promote the development of life skills, including staying healthy.

Much of what we promote is encapsulated in our mission statement – “A caring Christian community achieving full potential for all”.

We, the Governing body of St John the Baptist C.E. (Aided) Primary School, believe that all members of our school community should be able to learn and achieve their full potential in a safe, secure and orderly environment. We value the strong relationships that exist throughout the school, which leads to the mutual respect that encourages good behaviour. We have high expectations of everyone and we will actively promote equality of value whether race, gender, age, sexuality, religion or disability.

Many of the school's policies and practice are based on our belief in, and respect for, the value and contribution of all members of our community and their right to succeed. We seek to eliminate all forms of discrimination, harassment and bullying. Policies and practice will be applied with consistency and fairness, with regard to each individual situation.

Our policies and practice on behaviour will place an emphasis on encouraging positive behaviour through high expectations; a focus on learning; and praise and rewards. It is recognised however, that on occasions sanctions are necessary to demonstrate that misbehaviour is not acceptable; to express the disapproval of the school community and to deter other pupils from similar behaviour. Sanctions will enable the pupil to reflect on, and learn from, their behaviour and to make reparation wherever possible. Because of our focus on positive behaviours and the opportunities for pupils to learn from their mistakes, we aim to ensure that the school has lower than national rates for exclusion.

Some pupils, for example those with special educational needs, physical or mental health needs, and looked after pupils can experience particular difficulties with behaviour and the school will seek to ensure that such pupils receive behavioural support according to their need. However, when making decisions the school must balance the needs of the individual with those of the school community and where pupil behaviour places others at risk, the safety of the pupil body as a whole is paramount. Given the importance of the safety of the school community, the Governing body support the right of the school to permanently exclude for a single offence where it is considered that allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school. Similarly, given the overriding need to keep children safe, the school will utilise their powers to search and to use reasonable force in order to keep individuals from harming, or further harming, themselves or others and from causing serious damage to school property.

We work with parents and carers to understand their children and their circumstances and believe this relationship is an important part in building a strong learning community. Similarly, given our duty of care to the pupils, this written statement and the policies that both stem from it and are influenced by it (for example, appropriate contact, behaviour, anti-bullying and exclusions) applies to all pupils when in school, when travelling to and from school, and when engaged in extra-curricular activities such as educational trips and visits (residential and non-residential) and when being educated as a member of St John's off-site.

Policy History

This is a new statement.

Discussed and agreed at the meeting of the full governing body on Monday 16th November 2015