

THE FEDERATION OF BEDENHAM AND HOLBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOLS

WRITTEN BEHAVIOUR STATEMENT

Dated: 7th March 2016

School Improvement Committee Approval: 7th March 2016

Date for Review: Autumn Term 2018

Governors' Statement of General Principles with Regard to Behaviour

Rationale and Purpose

This statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act, 2006 and DfE guidance (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools, 2014). The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance for the Head of School and Executive Headteacher in drawing up the school's behaviour policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of governors, staff and parents for the children in school as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters.

It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of discipline and sanctions and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the Governors' support when following this guidance.

This is a statement of principles, not practice; it is the responsibility of the Head of School and Exec Headteacher to draw up the school's behaviour policy, though they must take account of these principles when formulating this. The Head of School and Executive Headteacher is also asked to take account of the guidance in DfE publication Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: a guide for Headteachers and staff.

The school behaviour policy must be publicised on the school website and waymarked in newsletters each term. Parents of new children joining the school will be given a copy in their welcome packs as well as the Home School Agreement which has behaviour principles at its heart. Posters around the school site promote the school's behaviour principles.

Principles

- The Governors of the Federation of Bedenham and Holbrook Primary Schools believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school that (a) enables all its children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life and work and (b) enable all staff to teach and promote good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
- All children and staff have the right to feel safe at all times in school. There should be mutual respect between staff and children and between each other. All visitors to the school should feel safe and free from the effects of poor behaviour at all times and in all parts of the school.
- Bedenham Primary School and Holbrook Primary School are inclusive schools. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort (as laid down in the Equality Act 2010). To this end the schools must have a clear and comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy that is known and understood by all, consistently applied, monitored and where appropriate, incidents recorded. Measures to protect children from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.
- The school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of safeguarding and of students with Special Educational Needs and Disability and all vulnerable students, should be set out in the Behaviour Policy and made known to all staff.

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- Parents / carers should be encouraged and helped to support their children's education, just as the children should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time at school, in the local community and in preparation for their life after school. The responsibilities of children, parents / carers and all school staff with respect to children's behaviour must be outlined in the Home School Agreement which children, parent / carers and teachers must be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.
- The School Rules should be clearly stated in the Behaviour Policy. These should set out expected standards of behaviour, should be displayed in all classrooms and other, relevant parts of the school and shared with and explained to all children. The governors expect the rules to be consistently applied by all staff and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.
- Governors would like to see a wide range of rewards, consistently and fairly applied in such a way as to encourage and reward good behaviour in the classroom and elsewhere. These should be made clear in the Behaviour Policy and regularly monitored for their consistent, fair application and effectiveness.
- Sanctions for unacceptable / poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and children and consistently applied. The full range of sanctions should be clearly described in the Behaviour Policy so that children, staff and parents can understand how and when they are applied. The Governors strongly feel that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must be used only as a very last resort. 'Unofficial' exclusions are illegal and so must be avoided.
- The Head of School and Executive Headteacher may inform the police, as appropriate, if there is evidence of a criminal act or if they fear that one may take place. Sanctions should be monitored for their proper use and effective impact.
- The Behaviour Policy should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against students who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff. Governors expect the Head of school and Executive Headteacher to draw on the advice in "Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers" and other staff guidance documents when setting out the pastoral support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers. Staff so accused should not be automatically suspended pending an investigation.
- The Governors expect the Head of School and Executive Headteacher to include the following in some detail in the Behaviour Policy:

The power to use reasonable force or make other physical contact: the situations in which reasonable force may be used (including removing disruptive pupils from classrooms or preventing them from leaving) should be stated.

A definition of reasonable force should be included, which would also explain how and when children may be restrained.

Governors would expect that all teachers are aware of the appropriate use and the restrictions upon the use of force and restraint.

- The governors must be satisfied, in all situations arising, that the measures proposed

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by the Head of School and Executive Headteacher are lawful and that staff and children know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.