



St Edmund's Catholic Primary School
'Together we learn and grow through worship and celebration'
 Governors' Written Statement of Behaviour Principles

Introduction

Section 88 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires the Governing Body to set the framework of the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy by providing a written statement of behaviour principles, taking into account the needs of all pupils.

The purpose of the statement is to advise and guide the Headteacher in drawing up the Behaviour Policy by stating the principles which governors expect to be followed. It follows the guidance issued by the Department for Education in September, 2012, and will be reviewed in line with the Behaviour Policy, and in response to any changes in legislation and DfE guidance.

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 Headteacher to draw up the school's behaviour policy, though he must take account of these principles when formulating this. The 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, in writing, to staff, parents/carers and children at least once a year. At St Edmunds it is published in the children's home school journal and highlighted at the 'meet the teacher' session at the beginning of each academic year.

Principles

St Edmund is a Catholic Primary school. As such, the Governing Body believe that the Behaviour and Discipline Policy should be underpinned by the Christian ethos of our school and should seek to embrace and carry forward the School's Mission Statement:

'Together we learn and grow through worship and celebration'.

We aim to motivate all our children with opportunities to enjoy their learning, to be challenged, to reach their full potential and to become independent, within a caring and safe environment.

We value every individual and promote and celebrate their achievements within the Christian ethos of our school.

Statement in Practice

The Behaviour Policy, based on Christian values, should enable and encourage children to develop self-awareness, to feel safe, to have respect for themselves and others and to look after their school and its surroundings, thus allowing our learning community to flourish.

The Governing Body firmly believe that the best way to ensure high standards of behaviour and discipline is to recognise achievement and celebrate success. However they also recognise that on occasions sanctions are necessary to demonstrate that misbehaviour is not acceptable; to express the disapproval of the school community; to deter other pupils from similar behaviour; and to ensure the health and safety of the whole school community.

It is recognised that the application of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and individual pupil, and that the school is expected to exercise discretion in their use.

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 is outlined in the Home School Agreement which children, parent / carers and teachers should be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school. A copy of the agreement can be found on the website.

The Governors expect the Behaviour Policy to be in accordance with their responsibilities under equality legislation: for example, by making reasonable adjustments in its application to vulnerable pupils. It should also support the school's commitment to improving outcomes for all pupils, eliminating all forms of discrimination, harassment and bullying, as well as promoting equality of opportunity, the welfare of pupils and good relations across the whole school community.

Contents of the Policy

The Behaviour Policy should include the following:

Expectations of the children;
How children are rewarded;
What sanctions may be employed.

The Exclusion Policy outlines procedures followed in the event of extreme inappropriate behaviour. Exclusion must only be used as a very last resort

The Governing Body are aware of their statutory duty to provide clear advice and guidance to the Headteacher in respect of the following: teachers' powers to search, to use reasonable force, and to discipline pupils for misbehaviour outside school. Whilst recognising that these are extreme measures, to be taken in exceptional circumstances, the Governors advise that for the protection and safety of the whole school community they should be carried out only in accordance with the specific guidance issued by the DfE.

It is recommended that training be provided on a regular basis to the staff, to assist them on the rare occasions when it may become necessary to exercise these powers. The Governors believe that it is by working together that we will encourage children to reach their full potential, and become independent, contributing and responsible members of society.

**Ratified by Governors:
Review in conjunction with Behaviour Policy**