

GEORGIAN GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

BEHAVIOUR PRINCIPLES: WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNING BODY

Reviewed: November 2024

Status: Statutory (Education and Inspections Act, 2006 and DfE guidance 'Behaviour and Discipline in Schools', 2014).

Rationale and Purpose

The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance for the Headteacher in drawing up the school's behaviour policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of Governors, staff and parents/ carers, for the pupils in school. It is intended to help all 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 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, whilst taking account of these principles. The Headteacher is also required 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 pupils at least once a year.

Principles

The Governors of Georgian Gardens School believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school by enabling:

- all pupils to make the best possible progress in their learning and wider aspects of their school life
 - all staff to teach, and promote good learning, without undue interruption or harassment.
- (a) All pupils and staff have the right to feel safe at all times in school and enjoy relationships built upon mutual respect. Similarly, visitors to the school should feel safe, and free from the effects of poor behaviour, at all times and throughout all parts of the school.
- (b) Georgian Gardens is an inclusive school. 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 school 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 pupils from bullying and discrimination as a result of

gender, race, religion, ability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.

- (c) The school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of safeguarding, pupils with Special Educational Needs and all vulnerable pupils should be set out in the Behaviour Policy and made known to all staff.
- (d) The responsibilities of pupils, parents / carers and all school staff with respect to pupils' behaviour must be outlined in the Behaviour and Exclusions Policy which is available on the website and sent home each academic year.
- (e) The School Rules should be clearly stated in the Behaviour Policy with a 'child-speak' version available too. 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 pupils.
- (f) 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 applied in such a way as to encourage and 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.
- (g) Sanctions for unacceptable / poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff, parents / guardians and pupils and consistently applied. The full range of sanctions should be clearly described in the Behaviour Policy so that all stakeholders can understand how, and when, they are applied.
- (h) The Governors strongly feel that suspensions, and permanent exclusions, must be used only as last resort and actioned using the official West Sussex paperwork.
- (i) The Headteacher must inform the police if there is evidence of a criminal act, or fears that one may take place.
- (j) The Behaviour Policy should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against pupils who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff.

The Governors expect the Headteacher to include the following in some detail in the Behaviour Policy:

- The responsibility/power of staff to screen and search pupils for prohibited items which are listed in the Behaviour Policy
- The responsibility/power of staff to use reasonable force, or make other physical contact. The situations in which reasonable force may be used should be stated and all incidents formally recorded and reported to governors. Governors would expect all relevant staff to be trained in the use of reasonable force and restraint.

- The Governors must be satisfied, in all situations arising, that the measures proposed by the Headteacher are lawful and that staff and pupils know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.

Heather Ward

Safeguarding Governor

12th November 2024