



St Joseph's Primary School Behaviour Policy

Shining in the Light of Christ to be the Best that we can be

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School fully recognises its responsibilities for promoting positive behaviour and inclusion.

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Introduction

St Joseph's is committed to an inclusive education for our learners that secures the widest access to learning and achievement in a safe and supportive environment.

We believe that every learner and member of staff has the right to feel safe, valued and a sense of belonging. We understand that when learners feel that they belong, they are more likely to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

We will fulfil our commitment to this by adhering to practice based on aspects of the following key advisory documents:

Department for Education (DfE) advice on:

- Suspension and Permanent Exclusion from schools
- Mental health and behaviour in schools
- Searching, screening and confiscation at school
- Restrictive interventions, including use of reasonable force, in schools
- Supporting learners with medical conditions at school

And on the following statutory documents:

- Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice
- The Equality Act
- Working Together to Safeguard Learners
- Keeping Children Safe in Education

The aim of this policy is to ensure:

- All our learners are safe and protected from harm
- All our learners experience and learn prosocial behaviours
- All adults in the school community are aware of our agreed approach to be consistently applied.

The policy provides an agreed framework for teaching and modelling prosocial behaviour, used by staff and made clear to children, parents and all professionals with whom we work. Pro-social behaviour is that which demonstrates;

- A good level of self-awareness
- Empathy for other people of all sorts, abilities and ethnicity
- A good level of personal motivation
- An ability to manage one's feelings positively and
- Good social skills.

All staff are:

- familiar with this behaviour policy and have an opportunity to contribute to its review.
- involved in the implementation of the policy as it relates to the school as a whole and through individual education/pastoral programmes, as appropriate.

Scope

This policy is consistent with all other policies adopted by the governing body and operate alongside the following policies relevant to the welfare and safety of our children:

- Safeguarding policy
- Staff Behaviour Policy
- Health and Safety
- SEND policy

This policy applies to all staff in our school.

For the purposes of this policy:

- **Staff** refers to all those working for or on behalf of the school, full time or part time, in a paid or regular voluntary capacity.
- **A volunteer** is a person who performs an activity that involves spending time, unpaid within our school (except for approved expenses).
- **Parent** refers to birth parents and other adults who are in a parenting role, for example step-parents, foster carers and adoptive parents.
- **Learner** refers to all learners on roll at our school.

Leadership

‘The behaviour of pupils in a school is influenced by almost every aspect of the way in which it is run and how it relates to the community it serves’. Elton Report 1989

As key strategic decision makers and vision setters for the school, the governors will make sure that our policies and procedures are in line with the relevant legislation and guidance documents. Governors provide a written statement of behaviour principles for the school (Appendix A) on which this policy is based and work with the senior leaders to make sure the following essentials are in place:

- Curriculum that supports the development of personal social skills, emotional intelligence and positive mental health.
- Training for staff about teaching strategies and approaches that build learner competence to manage their own behaviour.
- Policies that complement the key positive behaviour management approaches.

It is the responsibility of the head teacher to ensure that this policy is implemented consistently throughout the school, and to report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

It is also the responsibility of the head teacher to ensure:

- the health, safety and welfare of all learners in the school.
- records are kept of all reported serious incidents of misbehaviour and the actions taken.
- staff are supported to implement the policy through training, monitoring and feedback.

Mandatory Procedures

The consistent approach to behaviour management:

All staff understand the positive impact of certainty as much as consistency on learners at St Joseph’s. While learners benefit from encountering different personalities within our staff team, as they will in wider society, each member of staff will retain a high level of predictability when responding to both prosocial and ant-social behaviour.

Staff ensure:

- their interactions with learners about behaviour focus always on:
 - behaviours that are helpful for the learner more than those that are not
 - what is happening now and expected in the future more than about the past.
- prosocial behaviour exhibited by a group or individual is highlighted (in a way that such public recognition is tolerable to the individual), described and discussed as a teaching and learning point.
- escalating inappropriate behaviour is always managed calmly.
- anti-social behaviour is dealt with consistently and quietly, away from peers.

Rewards and sanctions:

Our staff use a range of agreed verbal, non-verbal and tangible rewards and prompts to motivate prosocial behaviour.

All staff who deal with learners directly:

- set clear expectations about learner behaviour (positively phrased) that are displayed clearly in each teaching and learning space.
- ensure rules, routines, learning habits and specific activities and rituals are mapped out for learners who need an individual response.
- encourage learners to recognise and explore their motivation to follow the behaviour expectations.

Staff promote good and improved behaviour by learners through a positive verbal and (where appropriate) written feedback system that is consistent and meaningful to each learner.

While our primary focus is specific, targeted, verbal feedback to individuals and groups, we also use some tangible rewards, primarily to reinforce messages about learner progress to parents.

This includes:

- Displaying learning, in written or photographic form in school and on our website
- Effort and achievement points which lead to star awards
- Celebration of success events/activities
- Rewards trips
- Letters/postcards/texts on a trackable platform eg Teachers2Parents home, based on data collection.

The leadership team monitors the use of rewards to ensure that they operate with due regard to equal opportunities and anti-discrimination.

Learners have the right to expect fair and consistent staff responses to anti-social or dangerous behaviour which make a clear distinction between serious and minor incidences. An appropriate negative consequence or sanction is one that functions as a deterrent, encourages prosocial behaviour in the future and rectifies any harm done where possible.

Staff implement a consistent range of strategies and logical negative consequences to deal with inappropriate behaviour including bullying by learners. In determining whether a consequence is 'logical' and 'reasonable', the following will be considered:

- the extent to which the consequence provides an opportunity for the learner to rectify harm
- the extent to which the learner has an opportunity to learn/rehearse different helpful behaviours
- whether the consequence was a proportionate in the circumstances;
- any special circumstances which are known to the person setting the consequence, including:
 - the learners age
 - any special educational needs or disability they may have.

In line with our safeguarding policy, all staff consider/assess whether incidences of dangerous, bullying, withdrawn or disengaged behaviour may constitute a safeguarding concern for either the instigator or learner subjected to that behaviour and record and report accordingly.

Negative consequences comprise:

- low-level sanctions used for minor or first incidents of inappropriate behaviour including verbal warnings or reminders of expectations
- medium-level sanctions for repeated low-level behaviour or more serious incidents including lunchtime or after school detention, with appropriate notice or time-out in another classroom or designated area
- high-level sanctions for serious or persistent breaches of the behaviour policy including internal exclusion (removal from normal lessons within school), suspension or permanent exclusion.

The success of rewards and sanctions and teaching and leadership approaches used is monitored and reviewed within :

- this policy's annual review
- staff performance reviews
- senior leadership team meetings monthly
- key stage team meetings and
- learners' Individual Support Plans (ISP) where applicable.

Suspension from our school or permanent exclusion will always be a last resort. In such cases we will work closely with parents and any relevant outside agency eg Wiltshire Council SEND and pupil support services, police and social care to ensure the learner is kept safe when excluded from school and that appropriate support is provided.

Any suspension or a permanent exclusion will be for a serious breach of this policy ie behaviour that compromises the safety and wellbeing of anyone in the school community. The decision to permanently exclude for one very serious incident or for a series of incidents will be made on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher considering the learner's age and stage of development. The headteacher will follow government guidance about suspension and permanent exclusion to ensure any decision to exclude is made rationally and is lawful, reasonable, fair, proportionate.

In monitoring this behaviour policy, the leadership team will seek assurance that:

- no sanctions are given that are ever degrading or humiliating;
- all rewards and negative consequences are applied fairly

Restrictive physical intervention and/or seclusion should only be used when all other options for de-escalating a conflict situation have failed. To prevent or stop a learner from:

- causing injury to themselves or other
- committing a criminal offence
- damaging property
- causing disorder among learners at the school

Staff will try negotiation, diffusion and de-escalation strategies as well as containment in a safe area, without the need to hold, before intervention whenever possible. The use of physical intervention in response to a foreseeable risk (physically dangerous behaviour previously exhibited by the learner) will only be used as part of a support plan set up incorporating the views of the parents and the learner where possible. Learners are given the opportunity to contribute to a written report compiled after any physical intervention. These reports are scrutinised by the nominated governor for behaviour and safeguarding. Parents are informed of any use of physical intervention by phone if possible, and in writing on the same day.

The staff have a duty to protect the safety of all learners. All physical intervention is to be carried out in such a way as to safeguard the learner and staff's wellbeing and be used for the minimum amount of time possible in order to bring the situation under control.

To maintain good order and safety of our community, certain items are banned from the school:

- weapons,
- illegal drugs or alcohol
- pornography
- fireworks or flares

Staff can search a learner for any banned item, or any item believed to be stolen if the learner agrees and this is normally undertaken by senior staff and by at least two staff members; at least one of the same gender as the learner. However, the headteacher and staff authorised by them can search learners or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the learner may have a dangerous/ unlawful item on their person or in their bag/equipment. The staff member must decide in each case what constitutes reasonable grounds for suspicion eg they may have heard other learners talking about the item, or they might notice a learner behaving in a way that causes them to be suspicious. The member of staff conducting the search will understand that learner's expectation of privacy increases as they get older.

Teaching and the curriculum

Our learners access a broad and balanced curriculum that promotes their spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development, and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

We provide opportunities for learners to develop skills, concepts, attitudes and knowledge that promote their safety and well-being. The PSHE and citizenship curriculum specifically includes the following objectives:

- Developing learner self-esteem and communication skills
- Developing strategies for self-protection including online safety
- Developing a sense of the boundaries between appropriate and inappropriate behaviour in adults and within peer relationships (positive relationships and consent)

Our curriculum promotes learners' self-control and ability to self-regulate, and strategies for doing so. We aim to help learners to become confident in their ability to achieve well, to persevere and to respond rationally to setbacks and challenges.

Classroom management

Teaching and support staff are responsible for setting the tone and context for positive behaviour within the classrooms and learning spaces.

They will:

- Create and maintain a stimulating, orderly, calm and motivating environment that encourages learners to be engaged.
- Invest time and energy in building positive relationships with learners. This may include:
 - Greeting learners in the morning/at the start of teaching sessions.
 - Establishing clear routines.
 - Communicating expectations of behaviour in ways other than verbally (including modelling and the use of non-verbal signs and gestures).
 - Highlighting and promoting prosocial behaviour.
 - Concluding the day positively.
- Make reasonable adjustments to expectations and to consequences for anti-social behaviour for learners with specific additional learning needs. These individual responses are planned and agreed with the leadership team to ensure consistency.

We recognise teach and celebrate the value of **FREE**dom.

Friendship – as positive peer relationships are a key protective factor for all young people.

Respect – as a key feature of successful and esteemed members of our school and of wider society.

Effort – as a valuable learning habit for life; understanding that much can be achieved with sustained effort.

Equality – we treat and expect all community members to afford others their right to equal treatment.

‘FREE’ also articulates what we strive for our learners to be - free to achieve, free to have opinions, free to be themselves, free from the effects of intimidation, from bullying and from low aspiration.

Learner support systems:

We regularly review the support available to those individual learners identified as being at risk of disengagement. The support offered includes:

- Access to alternative curriculum
- Planned ‘Time Out’. Learners who exhibit impulsive behaviour can be offered a Time Out card where they will leave the learning session for a short period of time and visit a designated supervised space onsite. This will happen as part of a plan agreed in advance by the SENCo/KS lead.
- Identification and support of SEND. Any learner will have an Individual Support Plan if their progress in terms of their social, emotional or mental health (SEMH) development:
 - is significantly slower than that of their peers starting from the same baseline
 - fails to match or better the child’s previous rate of progress
 - fails to close (or widens) the attainment gap between the learner and their peers

We use the [Wiltshire SEMH Assessment tool](#) to support with this.

We will determine whether there are any underlying cognitive or communication difficulties that may be contributing to the learner’s behaviour. Where a learner is identified as having SEMH-related difficulties, SEND support will be put in place.

Teaching strategies – The leadership team will work with/support staff to devise and develop strategies for staff to make reasonable adjustments for these learners whose behaviour may be the result of a learning difficulty, a disability or a medical condition.

Trauma informed practice – We understand that trauma can negatively impact learners’ ability to feel safe or develop trusting relationships with staff and their peers in school and we ensure ISPs for any learners who have experienced trauma in their lives are informed by good practice guidelines to:

- avoid re-traumatisation and to
- address the barriers that learners affected by trauma can experience in school.

We use the [ATRCM tool](#) to support with this.

Referral to and working with external agencies – We work with teams within Wiltshire Council SEND and Targeted Education Service and with Wiltshire Social Care as appropriate to agree additional strategies to support learner’s social and emotional development.

Liaison with parents

We work closely with the parents to ensure consistency wherever possible in the approach to teaching positive, prosocial behaviour.

We aim through our interactions with parents to help them to focus on examples of positive, pro-social behaviour shown by their children. We provide specific feedback about successes that encourage parents to feel proud of themselves as parents as well as their children and to feel hopeful about their future.

Parents as well as our learners are given an opportunity to contribute to the review of this policy.

Managing transitions to the next stage of their education/life

We recognise that how learners start and leave our school is a key indicator of

- success with us and
- success at their next school

Consequently, we work closely with parents to ensure we have the most up-to-date information about our learner's social emotional and mental health needs. We ensure learner's hopes, fears and preferences inform plans to help them to settle with us and to make the transition when they leave us.

We liaise with partner organisations eg schools, Wiltshire Council, to ensure any welfare records for learners are shared on transition:

- by the setting/school previously attended by the learner.
- by the DSL/Pastoral lead in the next school when the learner leaves us.

For any learner dual-registered with another school or supported by an alternative provider commissioned by the school, a nominated staff member liaises regularly with a named colleague at that base to ensure information is shared in the best interests of the learner. In line with our safeguarding policy, this includes contextual safeguarding information about relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online to enable assessment and intervention to happen within these extra-familial contexts.

Training

We recognise that all behaviour is a form of communication; that it is interactional and contextual.

Consequently, staff who work directly with learners are provided with continuous professional development in this area.

This includes training in:

- Positive behaviour management and restorative strategies
- SEN and disabilities associated with challenging or withdrawn behaviour eg autism or ADHD.
- Solution focussed thinking and questioning.
- Safeguarding that covers identifying challenging or withdrawn behaviour as a potential indicator of neglect or harm and identifying and responding to suspected cases of child on child abuse.
- Positive handling and de-escalation techniques. This training takes places when required as part of a response to risk assessment and needs analysis of learners.

Our training programme is reviewed annually to ensure that it is responsive to the needs of our staff and learners.

Staff support

Due to the demanding nature of our work dealing with learners who at times display challenging or withdrawn behaviour, we support staff by providing an opportunity to talk through the challenges of this aspect of their role with a senior leader and to seek further support as appropriate.

Monitoring and review

Governors ensure that learner wellbeing is an agenda item on the for every full governing body meeting.

The head teacher ensures that learner welfare is an agenda item for every staff meeting.

This policy is reviewed annually or earlier as required by changes to legislation or statutory guidance.

The nominated governor for safeguarding meets the head teacher every term (six times a year) to monitor the effectiveness of this policy.

Governors' written statement of behaviour principles

At St Joseph's, we strive to ensure that every child understands they all have the right to feel safe, valued and respected, and learn free from the disruption of others.

- All children, staff and visitors have the right to feel safe at all times at school and procedures should consider the requirements of the Education Act 2002 in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- All pupils, staff and visitors are free from any form of discrimination and policies reflect the duties of the Equality Act 2010.
- Staff and volunteers set an excellent example to pupils at all times.
- Our Behaviour Policy is rooted in our SHINE values: S- Spirituality, H- Harmony, I- Inquisitive, N – Never Give Up E- Enjoyment
- Pupils are helped to take responsibility for and reflect on their actions and choices through the school's restorative approach
- We believe children should be given opportunities and openly encouraged to support each other in the process of positive reinforcement and personal growth, learning and recognising good behaviour.
- Families are involved in behaviour incidents to foster good relationships between the school and pupils' home life.
- Rewards and sanctions are used consistently by staff, in line with our Behaviour Policy.
- The decision to use physical intervention and/or reasonable force will be based on individual circumstances and the professional judgement of staff.
- The Behaviour Policy is shared with pupils, parents and staff.
- By effectively preventing and tackling bullying, we can help to create a safe, disciplined environment where pupils are able to learn and fulfil their potential.
- The Behaviour Policy explains that suspensions (fixed-term exclusions) and permanent exclusions will only be used as a last resort, and outlines the processes involved in permanent and fixed-term exclusions.
- The Governing Board of St Joseph's School also emphasises that violence or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated in any circumstances.

We subscribe to the six principles (linked to theory) of the Thrive Approach:

We understand that behaviour communicates unmet needs and can separate the child/young person from their behaviour.

We understand that each developmental stage has a range of typical behaviours, which provide opportunities for adults to role-model and explicitly teach appropriate behaviours.

We provide containment, predictability and routine to build a sense of safety in the emotional and physical environment.

We encourage children/young people at our setting to become accountable for their actions and the impact they may have on themselves and others, promoting a solution-focused approach to changing future behaviours.

We keep in mind that we are the adults and the children/young people are still growing, learning and developing.

We seek to restore relationships and change behaviours rather than punish the actions a child may have taken. Although this does not exclude the use of sanctions, we seek the most appropriate way of supporting children/young people to develop robust stress-regulation systems and therefore the skills of self-control, empathy and emotional management.

This written statement and the policies that are influenced by it apply to all pupils when in school, when engaged in extra-curricular activities such as educational trips and visits (residential and non-residential) and when travelling to and from school.

The governors wish to emphasise that violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by pupils or parents, towards the school's staff, will not be tolerated.

Icon	Behaviour choices	Consequences	Teacher strategies and actions
Shooting Star 	Outstanding modelling of the school's SHINE values	I have achieved something that I should be really proud of. The adults at home and in the class will be incredibly proud of me Teachers will inform adults at home about the wonderful things I have done. A certificate/sticker will be sent home.	Send certificate home and talk to the adult who is picking the pupil up at the end of the day, or a phone message/email if the child is not picked up by an adult. Teacher to share the success with the class. The pupil goes to the Headteacher for a Headteacher's Award and Golden Ticket.
Sunshine 	I am consistently making the right choices even when it is difficult. I can treat others as I would like to be treated and understand that they have the same rights as me I can look after my environment.	You are proud of yourself and others are proud of you You are maximising your learning You are a role model to other children You will earn the class based rewards	Teacher gives out verbal praise. Teacher to share the success with the class. The pupil goes to the Headteacher for a Headteacher's Award and Golden Ticket. Class based rewards can be used.
Warning No Symbol- The child's name remains on the sunshine and their initials are written up on the board	I am beginning to make the wrong choices- I will think about how to turn it around	I am beginning not to learn and others may not want to be around me. I am disturbing the learning of my friends I will receive a first warning If my teacher has to tell me again I will go on the grey cloud.	The teacher uses a range of low-level behaviour management approaches such as, physical proximity, identifying the positive behaviours and non-verbal strategies Teacher to issue a verbal warning to clearly identify the desired behaviour.
Grey cloud	I am behaving in a way that stops my learning and learning of others I have made a poor choices	I may be moved away from my friends	The teacher speaks to the child; a time out may be given

		I have disrupted learning or spoiled play, other people may be hurt or upset My teacher will be disappointed in my behaviour My teacher may decide that I lose part of my playtime	If the poor behaviour is repeated then the child moves to the raincloud.
Raincloud 	I have made a poor choice and I am not responding to adults who are trying to help me.	I have disrupted my own learning and the learning of my friends or spoiled play, other people may be hurt or upset. I will be moved away from my friends and classmates I will lose miss all/part of my playtime	The child is sent to the Headteacher, who will log the incident and decide on an appropriate sanction. The parents will be informed. If a child is placed on the raincloud again, a meeting may be arranged to set up the weekly report card. The report card is sent home daily and signed by the teacher parent and the pupil.
The majority of the time the agreed System should be consistently adhered to. However, any very serious incidents that take place either in the classroom or the playground, e.g. use of physical violence, the system should be by passed and the pupil should be sent to the head teacher or a senior member of staff.			