

Behaviour Policy

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's [Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy](#), [Anti-Bullying Policy](#), [Cyberbullying Policy](#), [Acceptable Use Policy](#), [Physical Restraint and Use of Reasonable Force Policy](#), [Searching and Confiscation Policy](#), [Disability Policy](#).

The school recognises its duties under the Equality Act 2010 to make reasonable adjustments for children with disabilities.

This policy has been drawn up using advice from [Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Advice for Headteachers and School Staff DfE 2016](#). This is a whole school policy and includes EYFS and the Boarding House.

Aims:

- To promote good behaviour, self-discipline and respect
- To promote an environment where everyone feels safe, valued and secure
- To prevent bullying

School Rules

The school does not have a complex set of rules, with a fixed scale of associated sanctions. Rather, we follow the simple rule that we should treat others as we would wish to be treated and base our pastoral expectations on the application of this rule to any particular circumstances.

Promoting Good Behaviour

The helpful examples set by adults both in the ways in which they conduct themselves, the respect they demonstrate to each other and the children, and in their consistent and collective expectations of the children, is a key ingredient in teaching good behaviour. As well as staff acting as positive role models, the school will endeavour to promote and teach good behaviour by having the following expectations of the pupils:

- **Courtesy:** Pupils will be expected to be polite at all times. Impolite language or behaviour will be drawn to children's attention.
- **Respect:** Pupils will be expected to treat other people as they wish to be treated, with kindness and respect.
- **Dress:** Pupils will be expected to come to school dressed appropriately in the correct uniform without adornment, with tidy clothes, clean shoes and combed hair.
- **Lessons:** Pupils will be expected to await the arrival of the teachers before lessons in a calm manner. Pupils are expected to be silent whenever requested by the teacher to do so.
- **Property:** Pupils will be expected to respect their peers' property and the school's property at all times. Any acts of vandalism will be fully investigated and parents will be expected to make a contribution towards the cost of damages. Boarders must report any accidental damage to house property to staff immediately. No sports equipment (including balls, racquets and bats) should be kept in dorms and there should be no eating or drinking in dorms.
- **Use of Lockers:** Pupils will be expected to use their lockers responsibly. Pupils are not allowed to go into other pupils' lockers for any reason.
- **Older pupils** will be expected to be good role models for younger pupils and to set helpful examples of good behaviour and respect. This is particularly important in the boarding house when younger pupils need help getting used to the boarding routine.
- **Privacy:** Boarders are not allowed to go into other boarders dorms and must respect the privacy of the other boarders in their dorms and their possessions.
- **Safety:** Boarders must not walk alone between school and the boarding house and must use North Drive when entering or leaving Senior House. Boarders can only return to the house in three's during the school day and must sign out with the Senior House Secretary. Ball games are not permitted outside the boarding house due to the proximity of the road.

- Technology: Mobile phones are not allowed in the boarding house. Any technology such as MP3 players, kindles and tablets must be declared and must not access the internet or be loaded with games, gaming apps, movies or music videos.

Resolving incidents and conflicts

The school strongly encourages children to resolve and problem-solve issues for themselves where possible, and teaching them how to do this starts with our youngest pupils in KG. In KG they are taught three initial steps to problem solve which are:

- Stop and calm down
- Say the problem
- Say the feeling

In T1 two further steps are added which are:

- Think of a goal
- Make a plan

From T2 upwards the children are encouraged to add the two remaining steps which are:

- Try your plan
- Say how your plan worked

Managing Transitions

The school is aware that transitions can be times of anxiety for pupils. This includes both normal transitions around the school site during the day and the more significant changes of teachers and classrooms that happens at the end of the year. Boarders and choristers are more vulnerable so extra consideration will be given to their needs.

At Byron House pupils are supervised when they are moving around the school building at break times, and children are monitored in the building until they are out on to the playground, at which point the people on duty take over. EYFS children are monitored by their teaching assistants or teachers at all times during the school day.

At Senior House children are afforded more independence and are free to move around the buildings and grounds. All outdoor spaces are supervised by a member of staff.

At the end of each academic year children who find managing the transition to a new form difficult are identified and a plan is put in place to manage the transition. Handover meetings are held between the current tutor and new tutor so that any necessary information is transferred early on.

In the boarding house each child has an individual boarders plan, written by the Housemaster detailing all the actions put in place to ensure the child has as much support as possible being away from home. This will include such things as dealing with homesickness and any support needed for learning or pastoral needs. This is particularly important for choristers who have a heavier workload.

Support Systems for Pupils

The school has an excellent pastoral system where the pupils are actively encouraged to share their worries with an adult. Each child has a safety network of adults to whom they can go with a worry and this work is revisited at the beginning of each term. Each child has a tutor whom they see regularly and each tutor discusses their tutees at a weekly meeting with a senior member of staff to ensure all is well. The Head and the Deputy Head are kept informed of all pastoral issues.

Rewards

While some of our pastoral work is naturally and properly devoted to discovering and resolving concerns, the majority of our time should be spent recognising, acknowledging and promoting all that is positive within the community.

It is important always to look for opportunities to praise and encourage, within and beyond the classroom. The cumulative effect of such an approach is very powerful. As a school that prides itself on the care of the

individual we need to ensure that we praise and encourage each child, regardless of age and ability. The school has the following rewards

- **Praise:** Praise for children's efforts will foster self-esteem and perseverance and is a key factor in children's academic and general progress. This could come in the form of praise for endeavour in the classroom, on the sports field, in the boarding house or for acts of kindness around school.
- **Written Comments:** Positive written comments give the children tangible feedback for their efforts.
- **Star System:** The school has a class star system for T1 and T2. Stars are awarded to the whole form for a particularly hard working lesson, a collective achievement or acts of kindness. Stars are always explained so that the children know why they have been awarded. In Forms 1 to 6 stars may be awarded for a particularly well done piece of work, a kindness or an achievement. In Forms 1 and 2 the reward is to receive the star itself, and the praise that accompanies it. Children keep their own stars in their planner. In Forms 3 to 6 stars are stuck in the pupil's planner and are counted each term with the totals going towards the house star competition. The house with the most stars wins the trophy.
- The boarding house also has a star system. Stars are awarded to an individual, dorm or year group for acts of kindness, positive behaviour or good effort.
- Activities off- site for the whole boarding house may be used to develop the comradery and community feel within the boarding house.
- **Termly Trophies:** Termly trophies are awarded for non-academic achievements from T2 upwards such as Courtesy, Care and Consideration, Sports, Music, Art and Endeavour. These can vary depending on the term and are awarded by the Head in assembly.
- **Progress Prizes:** One pupil per form is awarded the termly progress prize of a book token. The recipient is decided by the teachers and the prizes are awarded by the Head in assembly.
- **End of Year Prizes:** There is a wide range of prizes given to children in Forms 1-6 on Speech Day, covering all aspects of school life. Pupils receive their prize of a book or a CD from the Prizegiver.
- **Congratulations:** The school's primary concern is to ensure that children learn how to get the best out of themselves. For this reason, when there are successes in public scholarships in whatever discipline, there is much discrete congratulation of the child concerned but there is not a public ceremony of congratulation.

Sanctions

The school will NEVER

- **Use corporal punishment or threaten to use corporal punishment.**
- **Use unacceptable, excessive or idiosyncratic punishments including any punishment intended to cause pain, anxiety or humiliation, deprivation of access to food or drink, enforced eating or drinking, prevention of contact by telephone or letter to parents or any appropriate independent listener or helpline' or require pupils to wear distinctive clothing as a punishment.**
- **Withhold medical, optical or dental treatment as a punishment.**
- **Deprive a pupil of sleep.**
- **Lock a pupil in an area or room of a building.**

The following are the sanctions the school will use which reflect the seriousness of an incident and convey a deterrent effect:

- **Minor Incidents** may only need a private and informal word with the child or children involved.
- **Restorative Justice:** Children may be asked to give up some of their free time to give back to the community. This could be helping a teacher, litter picking, arranging a lunchtime activity or planning and running a charity event. This will be recorded on the child's action plan.
- **Loss of Free Time:** This is rare but if a child does not complete a piece of work because they have not been behaving appropriately they will be asked to stay in for a period to complete a satisfactory amount of work. At Byron House this will be in their classroom. At Senior House, this will be in detention in Room 9. This will be recorded on the child's action plan in Byron House and on a central log at Senior House held by the Deputy Head for monitoring purposes.
- **Loss of Privileges:** A child who misuses a facility may be banned from it for a period of time. This will be recorded on the child's action plan.

- A child who causes upset may be banned from an area in the school for a period of time. This will be recorded on the child's action plan.
- Detention: At Senior House children who misbehave in lessons or around school may be sent to a lunchtime detention which is 30 minutes long. This will be recorded on a central log for monitoring purposes held by the Deputy Head.
- SATIS: A child may be put on SATIS to help them to improve their behaviour. This involves the child having targets set on the card which is carried around by them and signed by staff. Most children find this a helpful and positive experience.
- Behaviour Plans: A child who has more complex or serious behavioural difficulties will have a behaviour plan drawn up by the Head of the Junior Department or the Deputy Head. This will be reviewed on a half termly basis or sooner if appropriate and will always involve the parents.
- In an extremely rare case of a serious breach of discipline, a child may be given 'time out' in agreement with the parents, for parents to discuss the situation with the child and for the child to reflect on his or her behaviour. Such an absence can only be authorised by the Head or the Deputy Head.

Boarding Sanctions

Sanctions for boarders will take place during evening activity time and on the same evening as the sanction is given. This might be an issue for choristers as their free time is limited and therefore the sanction may need to be delayed to a more appropriate time. The sanctions in the boarding house are similar to the day school in that they reflect the seriousness of an incident and convey a deterrent effect with the emphasis being on restorative justice. All sanctions in the boarding house are recorded in the sanctions log. The following sanctions may be used:

- If a boarder is found to have a mobile phone or to be using technology inappropriately, the equipment will be confiscated and parents will be asked to come to school to pick it up.
- Restorative Justice: This may include litter picking, bin emptying, tidying of communal areas, laundry, cleaning glass mirrors and surfaces, helping with wall displays, reading to younger children or charity work.
- Loss of Free Time: This could involve missing an activity to write a letter of apology or to learn a poem.

EYFS Sanctions

Many minor incidents in EYFS will be dealt with by using the 'Plan to resolve conflicts' which is set out above. However, the following sanctions may be used in KG.

- Supervising the child in a quiet area and helping them to calm down
- Having a quiet word with the children involved
- Asking children to apologise to each other
- Asking children to either draw or make something to say sorry to another child or adult
- Creating a behaviour plan, which is always explained to the child and of which parents are always made aware.
- In extreme cases, and only if we feel the child is too exhausted or overwhelmed to manage their behaviour for that day, we may ask parents to collect their child. This would only be agreed by the Head, the Deputy Head or the Head of the Junior Department.

Temporary and Permanent Exclusion

Suspension and expulsion fall within the authority of the Head only. This would only happen as a consequence of a child's failure to respond to the measures outlined above, in which case parents would have been warned in advance, and in writing, of this possibility, or as a result of a disciplinary breach of very serious proportions.

- Expulsion for behavioural reasons would only follow at least one period of temporary exclusion unless the breach of discipline (within or beyond school) was so serious that the expulsion of a child was deemed to be in the School's best interests or those of the child or other children.
- Reasons for suspension and expulsion of a child may include the bullying (including cyberbullying) of other pupils, persistent non-attendance of the pupil without good reason, possession of or use of alcohol or illegal substances, persistent refusal to conform to the school's behavioural expectations or the school's inability to guarantee the safety of the child or other children or the school. Pupils who make a malicious accusation against a member of staff will fall into this category.

- In such circumstances, the school would act fairly and properly in deciding whether a pupil must be suspended or expelled from the school and wherever possible would seek the agreement of the parents before a decision was taken.

Physical Intervention

- All staff with responsibility for children's safety and welfare must deal professionally with all incidents involving aggressive behaviour and only use physical intervention as a last resort, always ensuring minimal risk of injury to pupils and staff.

Staff must follow the guidelines set out in the [Physical Restraint and Use of Reasonable Force Policy](#).

Searching and Confiscation

- There may be times when a member of staff needs to search a pupil or a pupil's belongings because something has gone missing and there are reasonable grounds to conduct a search. In such circumstances staff must follow the guidelines set out in the [Searching and Confiscation Policy](#)
- There is a list of items prohibited in school. These items are:
 - knives or weapons
 - alcohol
 - illegal drugs
 - stolen items
 - tobacco and cigarette papers
 - fireworks
 - pornographic images
 - any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil)

Record of Sanctions:

- Minor sanctions in the day school will be recorded on the child's action plan and copied to the tutor, Head of Year and the Head of the Junior Department at Byron House or the Deputy Head at Senior House. This is so that any patterns of behaviour can be picked up immediately.
- All detentions at Senior House are logged by the Deputy Head so that any patterns of behaviour can be picked up immediately.

Record of Serious Sanctions

- All serious sanctions will be recorded and held centrally by the Deputy Head for monitoring purposes.

Liaison with Parents and other Agencies

- The school actively encourages parents to keep in contact and to keep the lines of communication open. The more we communicate, the better we can look after our pupils. Parents will be kept informed of any serious behavioural issues regarding their child. If a Behaviour Plan needs to be put in place, parents will be actively encouraged to be involved in the process. Occasionally, the school may need to liaise with outside agencies in order to gain advice or to work in tandem to provide the best support for a child.
- The policy is made available to parents at all times on the school website.
- The policy will be reviewed annually. However if any amendments are made at other times of the year, parents will be informed via the parent Portal on the school's website.

Staff Training

- Staff will receive annual training on this policy so they have a clear understanding of the systems and procedures and their legal responsibilities.

*The Designated Safeguarding Lead, Prevent Strategy Lead and Behaviour Lead is Mrs Ruth O'Sullivan
The EYFS Designated Safeguarding Lead and Behaviour Lead is Miss Althea Pipe*