

St Agnes' behaviour principles written statement



This document is not policy or practice, rather it is a statement to set out St Agnes' Catholic Primary's broad principles and values with regard to behaviour that is both expected and promoted within the school.

Actual, practical applications of these principles are the responsibility of the headteacher, who will view each case in light of these principles and any relevant policies.

The governing body is aware and approves of this statement, believing it accurately reflects the school's ethos and that effective learning and development relies on good standards of behaviour.

This is why, at St Agnes' Catholic Primary, we seek to uphold high standards of behaviour that are guided by the principles within this statement.

Principles

- The school's primary concern is the safety, wellbeing and education of all pupils; actions taken in cases of bad behaviour are with the intention of upholding their wellbeing and academic progress, as well as fulfilling our safeguarding responsibilities.
- All members of the school community must be treated inclusively and be free from any form of discrimination or prejudice – whether it be racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, religious or age-based.
- The school will create and maintain a calm atmosphere and ethos of tolerance, equality, diversity, respect, understanding, acceptance and kindness and a sense of citizenship throughout the school community in everyday practice.
- All children, staff and visitors should feel safe in the school environment at all times through a high quality of care, support and guidance.
- All pupils have a right to fulfil their greatest academic and personal potential and feel they are valued members of the school by both their peers and school staff, and should be free from bullying, discrimination and distracting peer behaviour.
- Rules are to be consistently applied across the school and where consequences are exercised, they should be proportionate to the misdemeanour, in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- Good behaviour around school is to be acknowledged and rewarded at the discretion of staff, who will judge appropriately.
- At St Agnes', we want to foster a community and collective ethos amongst all members of the school and promote values of caring, empathy, teamwork and coordination.
- In cases of problematic pupil behaviour, regardless of how sustained and disruptive, the pupil's out-of-school circumstances and possible special educational needs and disabilities must be taken into account. Comprehensive support is given before or alongside disciplinary measures – exclusions and expulsions are to be used only as a last resort where other measures fail.
- Any kind of violence, threatening behaviour or abuse between pupils, or by pupils/parents/carers towards the school's staff, will not be tolerated. If a parent/carer does not conduct himself/herself properly, the school reserves the right to ban them from the school premises and, if the parent/carer continues to cause disturbance, he or she may be liable to prosecution.
- Guidance on the use of reasonable force will be agreed upon by the headteacher and governing body, and clearly set out within the school's Behaviour Policy.

- The school ensures that rules that reflect and are consistent with the messages taught across the curriculum are consistently applied across the school and, where sanctions are exercised, they are in line with the school's behaviour policy and are taken seriously. Good behaviour at school is acknowledged and rewarded at the discretion of all staff, who will judge appropriately.
- The school offers comprehensive support to pupils displaying problematic behaviour, before and/or alongside disciplinary measures, taking into account pupils' home circumstances and any SEND.
- Guidance on the use of physical intervention will be agreed upon by the headteacher and governing board, and is clearly set out within the school's Behaviour Policy and Physical Intervention Policy.

General expectations

- All members of the school community should be aware of behavioural expectations and the relevant policies, and agree to them as fair and reasonable. These will be made readily available to read and general expectations will be displayed in classrooms and around the school.
- Polite and considerate behaviour is to be maintained by all around the school, both in and out of the classroom.
- Offensive or insulting language is not to be used in any circumstances, deliberately or otherwise.
- Each pupil receives the necessary behavioural support according to their specific needs.
- Bullying (and cyber bullying) is not tolerated and pupils should report any case of bullying they experience or observe to school staff.
- Pupils should help staff by showing good behaviour in the classroom, not distracting themselves or others from important learning.
- Staff will lead by example and model their conduct in line with the school's standards.
- To keep the pupils and staff safe, the headteacher will utilise their powers to search or use reasonable force in order to keep individuals from harming, or further harming, themselves or others.
- Everyone in St Agnes' community should understand that the school's emphasis is on encouraging and praising good behaviour and supporting individuals who are struggling to meet the expected behavioural standards.
- The school does not tolerate offensive or insulting language in any circumstances and expects polite and considerate behaviour to be maintained by all. Bullying, discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual abuse and sexual violence are not tolerated, online or offline. The school effectively addresses harmful sexual behaviour in the Behaviour Policy, which details appropriate sanctions that are applied consistently. Pupils are encouraged to report any case of bullying they experience or observe to school staff, and wherever such behaviour occurs it will be dealt with quickly, consistently and effectively.
- The school supports pupils to play a highly positive role in creating an environment in which commonalities are identified and celebrated, difference is valued and nurtured, and bullying, harassment and violence are never tolerated. All pupils are taught to actively support the wellbeing of other pupils.
- All pupils are expected to behave consistently well, demonstrating high levels of self-control and consistently positive attitudes to their education.
- Pupils are held to high standards of attendance. The school will take swift, appropriate action to ensure that problems of lateness and absence are handled effectively.
- Staff lead by example and model their conduct in line with the school's standards. This statement, and the policies that are influenced by it, applies to all pupils and staff inside and outside of school.

This written statement, and the policies that are influenced by it, applies to all pupils and staff inside and outside of school, when acting as ambassadors, when engaged in extra-curricular activities, such as educational trips and visits (residential and non-residential) and when being educated as a member of St Agnes' Catholic Primary School..

Date of review: October 2023

Next review October 2025