



Written Statement of Behaviour Principles

Rev	Date	Description
Draft	11/11/2016	Initial version

Introduction

This statement has been agreed by the governing body of Worple Primary School, in accordance with the Education and Inspection Act 2006 and the guidance given in Guidance for Governors on Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (September 2015, DfE).

The governing body must define and maintain a set of principles that convey the behavioural ethos of the school and the shared aspirations of governors, parents, carers, staff and children.

The principles discussed in this statement are used to inform the head teacher's **behaviour policy**. The statement also shows the legislation and guidance that the policy should include.

The head teacher must ensure that the behaviour policy is made available to staff, parents, carers and children and that it is posted on the school website.

Principles

Safety

All children, staff and visitors have the right to feel safe at school.

Standards

High standards of behaviour enable effective teaching and learning and ensure a happy, vibrant, productive and safe learning environment through the whole school.

Governors expect children to display high standards of behaviour both at school and when they represent the school off-site, e.g. at school-related events and visits, when they are travelling to and from school, or when they are wearing the school uniform off-site.

The school's rules will be clearly stated in the behaviour policy and will be explained to all children. The governors expect rules to be consistently applied by all staff.

Understanding

Children have varying needs and backgrounds and some children may need additional support to meet the behaviour expectations of the school.

Respect

There should be mutual respect between all members of our school community.

Reward and sanction

Rewarding the good behaviour of children helps to encourage future patterns of positive behaviour and reinforces aspirations and expectations of the school.

The policy should indicate a range of reward strategies. A hierarchy of sanctions for unacceptable behaviour should also be included and be known and understood by all children, staff, parents and carers so that it is clear how and when these are applied. This includes the school's position on exclusions, which is to be a sanction used as a last resort.

Powers to support behaviour management

The behaviour policy will also involve the specific guidance issued by the DfE. Governors recognise that these are extreme measures to be used in exceptional circumstances.

Searching children

The policy must discuss the power of school staff to screen or search a child where there is a reasonable belief that he or she possesses an item that is prohibited or banned in accordance with school rules. Whenever staff screen, search or confiscate items they must follow the guidance given by Screening, Searching and Confiscation: Advice for Headteachers, Staff and Governing bodies (February 2014, DfE).

Off-premises misbehaviour

The policy must discuss the power to discipline children for misbehaving outside the school premises "to such an extent as is reasonable". The behaviour policy must clearly outline what it deemed as reasonable in accordance to the guidance given by Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Advice for Headteachers and School Staff (February 2014, DfE).

Reasonable force

The policy must discuss the power to use reasonable force and other physical contact to control inappropriate behaviour. Governors expect that appropriate and 'authorised' staff have undergone necessary training and that when such interventions are made the school follows the guidance given by Use of Reasonable Force: Advice for Headteachers, Staff and Governing Bodies (July 2014, DfE).

Allegations against school staff

In cases where allegations are made against school staff or it is found that children have made malicious accusations against school staff, governors expect the Headteacher to draw on the advice contained in the Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and Other School Staff guidance (DfE). The school must also follow this guidance when setting out the support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers. Staff so accused should not be automatically suspended pending an investigation. This should refer to the **allegations of abuse policy**.