

Greenfylde Church of England First School



Governors' Written statement of behaviour principles

The Education and Inspectors Act 2006 and DfE guidance (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools, 2015) requires the Governors to make and frequently review a written statement of general behaviour principles to guide the Head teacher in determining measures to promote good behaviour.

This is a statement of principles, not practice.

Practical applications of these principles are the responsibility of the Head teacher. The statement has been adopted by the Governing Body as a whole and is informed by our mission and value statements.

Our Vision

Our doors are open – everyone is welcome in Greenfylde C of E First School. As a school community we seek through shared service to support children, families and wider community; encouraging high expectation, hope and support for aspirations and an understanding that all deserve to receive and give respect and dignity.

'...life in all its fullness' John 10:10

At the heart of school life are our Christian Values which underpin our actions and expectations for the whole school community. The values we promote (caring, friendly and thankful) are important within the school community and are values which will be important throughout life. In all that we do we strive to share, encourage and demonstrate positive values with our children; in order that they understand them and strive to live by them.

Our school rules are for the whole school community and embrace our vision and values and these are visibly displayed around the school. As a school we want everyone to feel nurtured and supported to reach their potential.

The Governors at Greenfylde C of E First School believe in the inclusivity of our school and actively support making the curriculum accessible to every pupil. Our aim is to enrich the lives of all our pupils by pursuing an inclusive policy towards our pupils which celebrates diversity, understands the importance of common identity and reflects our Christian values.

The purpose of this statement is to give guidance to the Head teacher in drawing up the Behaviour Policy by stating the principles that the Governors expect to be followed.

The governors expect any policy or actions to be in accordance with their responsibility under equality legislation.

Principles:

- All children and staff have the right to feel safe at all times in school. There should be mutual respect between staff and children and between each other.
- All visitors to the school should feel safe and free from the effects of poor behaviour at all times and in all parts of the school.
- Anti-Bullying Policy and procedures that are known and understood by all, consistently applied, monitored and where appropriate, incidents recorded.
- The responsibilities of children, parents / carers and all school staff with respect to children's behaviour must be outlined in the Home School Agreement which children, parent / carers and teachers must be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.
- The Behaviour Policy should set out expected standards of behaviour and shared with and explained to all children. 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 and fairly applied in such a way as to encourage and reward 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.
- Sanctions for unacceptable / poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and children and consistently applied. The full range of sanctions should be clearly described in the Behaviour Policy so that children, staff and parents can understand how and when they are applied. This should link to the school's approach to establishing exemplary behaviours for learning (link to Golden Time) and should be displayed in all classrooms.
- The Governors strongly feel that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must be used only as a very last resort. 'Unofficial' exclusions are illegal and so must be avoided.
- The Governors expect students and parents to cooperate to maintain an orderly climate for learning. The responsibilities of children, parents / carers and all school staff with respect to children's behaviour must be outlined in the Home School Agreement which children, parent / carers and teachers must be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.
- The Governors wish to emphasise that violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by students or parents towards the school's staff will not be tolerated.

Additional powers to support behaviour management will also include the following, using the specific guidance issued by the DfE. Governors recognise that these are extreme measures to be used in exceptional circumstances.

- The power of school staff to screen or search a pupil where there is a reasonable belief that he/she possesses an item that that is 'prohibited' or banned in accordance with school rules. Whenever staff screen, search or confiscate items they must follow the document guidance Screening, Searching and Confiscation: Advice for Headteachers, Staff and Governing bodies. January 2018. DfE
- The Power to discipline pupils 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 document guidance Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Advice for Headteachers and School Staff. January 2016. DfE
- 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 document guidance Use of Reasonable Force: Advice for Headteachers, Staff and Governing Bodies. July 2013. DfE
- Allegations against school staff. In cases where allegations are made against school staff or it is found that pupils 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 document . The school must also follow this guidance when setting out the pastoral 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.

Review: This Statement of Principles will be reviewed annually alongside the school Behaviour Policy.