

Newton-le-Willows Primary School

Nurture the Potential to Succeed



Written Statement of Behaviour Principles

Governors' Statement of General Principles with Regard to Behaviour

This statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act, 2006 and DfE guidance (Behaviour in Schools – Advice for Headteachers and School Staff – February 2024, Searching, Screening and Confiscation in School – July 2022, Use of Reasonable Force – July 2013 & Suspension and Permanent Exclusion from Maintained Schools – July 2024).

The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance for the Headteacher in drawing up the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of Governors, staff and parents for the children in school as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters. It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of discipline and sanctions and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the Governors' support when following this guidance.

This is a statement of principles, not practice; it is the responsibility of the Headteacher to draw up the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy, though she must take account of these principles when formulating this. The Headteacher is also asked to take account of the guidance in the following DfE publications: Behaviour in Schools – Advice for Headteachers and School Staff – February 2024, Searching, Screening and Confiscation in School – July 2022, Use of Reasonable Force – July 2013 & Suspension and Permanent Exclusion from Maintained Schools – July 2024.

The school Behaviour and Discipline Policy must be publicised, in writing, to staff, parents/carers and children. Publication on the school website will suffice.

Principles

Our school rules are Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe. These rules are underpinned by our school values (STRIVE), which are outlined in our Behaviour and Discipline Policy. Our school values help to define the ethos; everyone striving to be the best that they can be through: self-motivation, teamwork, resilience, independence, vision and emotional intelligence.

Our aim is that all children should be able to achieve their potential in a safe and happy environment in which staff are connected, authentic and curious about every pupil in their care.

Pupils will acquire the self - discipline that will make them good citizens of the future, able to lead fulfilling and satisfying lives. We expect our children to develop high personal standards and moral values, through a sense of responsibility and a respect for others. Children are taught to take responsibility for their own behaviour.

The primary aim of our Behaviour and Discipline Policy is to promote good behaviour. We have school rules (outlined above) and staff do not ignore unacceptable behaviour - but having high expectations, being good role models and rewarding pupils enables us to promote positive behaviour across school.

- The Governors of Newton-le-Willows Primary School believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school. These will enable all children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life and work and all staff to be able to teach and promote good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
- All children and staff have the right to feel safe, valued and respected 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.
- Newton-le-Willows Primary School is an inclusive school. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort (as laid down in the Equality Act 2010). To this end, the school

must have a clear and comprehensive Anti - Bullying Policy (now known as Anti-Bullying and Anti-Abuse Policy) that is known and understood by all, consistently applied, monitored and where appropriate, incidents recorded. Measures to protect children from bullying and discrimination, as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.

- The school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of safeguarding students with Special Educational Needs and all vulnerable students should be set out in the Behaviour and Discipline Policy and made known to all staff.
- Parents / carers should be encouraged and helped to support their children's education, just as the children should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time at school, in the local community and in preparation for their life after school. 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 Home/School Agreement is detailed in the Data Collection Booklet.
- The school are expected to make all children and parents / carers aware of the expectations regarding behaviour and families are expected to be involved in behaviour incidents in relation to their child to foster good relationships between the school and pupils' home life.
- School rules/values are to be displayed throughout the school. The Governors expect the rules to be consistently applied by all staff and regularly monitored for their effectiveness. All staff will be made aware of the school's Code of Conduct and set an excellent example to pupils at all times.
- Governors expect to see the use of a wide range of rewards which are 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 and Discipline 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 and Discipline Policy so that children, staff and parents can understand how and when they are applied. Pupils are helped to take responsibility for their own actions.
- The Governors strongly feel that suspensions and exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must be used only as a very last resort. Sanctions should be monitored for their proper use and effective impact.
- The Behaviour and Discipline Policy should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against pupils who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff. Governors expect the headteacher to draw on the advice in the 'Managing Allegations Against People who Work With Children and Young People' policy 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.
- The Governors expect the Headteacher to include the following in the Behaviour and Discipline Policy:
 1. The power to use reasonable force or make other physical contact.
 2. The power to discipline outside the school gates.

The Governors must be satisfied, in all situations arising, that the measures proposed by the Headteacher are lawful and that staff and children know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.

- The Governing Body also emphasises that violence and threatening behaviour will not be tolerated in any circumstances.

This written statement of behaviour principles is reviewed and approved by the Governing Body annually.