

Quinton Primary School

Behaviour and Discipline Policy

Date of issue: November 2015

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Signed:

1 Aims and expectations

- 1.1** It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.
- 1.2** The school has a number of school rules, but the primary aim of the behaviour policy is not a system to enforce rules. It is a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. This policy supports the school community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way.
- 1.3** The school expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others.
- 1.4** We treat all children fairly and apply this behaviour policy in a consistent way.
- 1.5** This policy aims to help children to grow in a safe and secure environment, and to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the school community.
- 1.6** The school expects good behaviour and an ethos of kindness and co-operation among all its members. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour.

2 Rewards and punishments

- 2.1** We praise and reward children for good behaviour in a variety of ways:
- teachers congratulate children;
 - teachers give children house points;
 - children may be sent for a Headteacher Award which includes a sticker and letter a home.
 - children who have worked very hard or produced excellent work or made notable improvements are congratulated at Worker of the Week achievement assemblies. Children's out of school achievements are also celebrated;
 - staff commend children either for consistent good work or behaviour, or acknowledging outstanding effort or acts of kindness in school, and a Well Done letter goes home.
- 2.2** The school employs a number of sanctions to enforce the school rules, and to ensure a safe and positive learning environment. We employ each sanction appropriately to each individual situation. Behaviour letters are sent home, following any incidents;

- We expect children to listen carefully to instructions in lessons. If they do not do so, we ask them either to move to a place nearer the teacher, or to sit on their own.
- We expect children to try their best in all activities. If they do not do so, we may ask them to redo a task.
- If a child is disruptive in class, the teacher reprimands him or her. If a child misbehaves repeatedly, we may isolate the child from the rest of the class until s/he calms down, and is in a position to work sensibly again with others.
- The safety of the children is paramount in all situations. If a child's behaviour endangers the safety of others, the class teacher stops the activity and prevents the child from taking part for the rest of that session.
- If a child threatens, hurts or bullies another pupil, it is recorded in the school incident book, discussed with all the children involved and sanctions agreed by all. Incident reports are sent home to all parents where necessary. If a child repeatedly acts in a way that disrupts or upsets others, the school contacts the child's parents and seeks an appointment in order to discuss the situation, with a view to improving the behaviour of the child.

2.4 The class teacher discusses the school rules with each class and each class also has its own classroom code, which is agreed by the children and displayed on the wall of the classroom. In this way, every child in the school knows the standard of behaviour that we expect in our school. If there are incidents of anti-social behaviour, the class teacher discusses these with the whole class during class assemblies.

2.5 The school has an anti-bullying policy and does not tolerate bullying of any kind. We teach children about bullying and encourage them to report it to teachers or their parents who will help their child to inform the school. If we discover that an act of bullying or intimidation has taken place, we act immediately to stop any further occurrences of such behaviour. While it is very difficult to eradicate bullying, we do everything in our power to ensure that all children attend school free from fear.

2.6 All members of staff are aware of the regulations regarding the use of force by teachers, as set out in DfEE Circular 10/98, relating to section 550A of the Education Act 1996: *The Use of Force to Control or Restrain Pupils*. Staff only intervene physically to restrain children or to prevent injury to a child, or if a child is in danger of hurting him/herself. The actions that we take are in line with government guidelines on the restraint of children and most of the staff have had Team Teach training which is a nationally accredited method for safe physical handling of children in an emergency.

3 The role of the class teacher

3.1 It is the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure that the school rules are enforced in their class, and that their class behaves in a responsible manner during lesson time.

3.2 The class teachers in our school have high expectations of the children in terms of behaviour, and they strive to ensure that all children work to the best of their ability.

3.3 The class teacher treats each child fairly and enforces the classroom code consistently. The teacher treats all children in their class with respect and understanding.

3.4 If a child misbehaves repeatedly in class, the class teacher keeps a record of all such incidents on a GREEN FORM which is passed to the headteacher/DSL. In the first instance, the class teacher deals with incidents him/herself in the normal manner. However, if misbehaviour continues, the class teacher seeks help and advice from the head teacher – the school is not prepared to let any single child deprive other children of quality learning time –

in that case, a child will be removed from the class and may be excluded (fixed-term or permanently)

3.5 The class teacher liaises with external agencies, as necessary, to support and guide the progress of each child. The class teacher may, for example, discuss the needs of a child with the education social worker or LA behaviour support service.

3.6 The class teacher reports to parents about the progress of each child in their class, in line with the whole-school policy. The class teacher may also contact a parent if there are concerns about the behaviour or welfare of a child.

4 The role of the head teacher

4.1 It is the responsibility of the head teacher, under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, to implement the school behaviour policy consistently throughout the school, and to report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy. It is also the responsibility of the head teacher to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all children in the school.

4.2 The head teacher supports the staff by implementing the policy, by setting the standards of behaviour, and by supporting staff in the implementation of the policy.

4.3 The head teacher keeps records of all reported serious incidents of misbehaviour.

4.4 The head teacher has the responsibility for giving fixed-term or permanent exclusions to individual children. The DfE statutory guidelines state:

“A decision to exclude a pupil permanently should only be taken:

- in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches, of the school's behaviour policy; and***
- where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.”***

5 The role of parents

5.1 The school works collaboratively with parents, so children receive consistent messages about how to behave at home and at school.

5.2 We expect parents to support their child's learning, and to co-operate with the school. We try to build a supportive dialogue between the home and the school, and we inform parents immediately if we have concerns about their child's welfare or behaviour.

5.3 If the school has to use reasonable sanctions to punish a child, parents should support the actions of the school. If parents have any concern about the way that their child has been treated, they should initially contact the class teacher. If the concern remains, they should contact the head teacher. If these discussions cannot resolve the problem, a formal grievance or appeal process can be implemented.

6 The role of governors

6.1 The governing body has the responsibility of setting down these general guidelines on standards of discipline and behaviour, and of reviewing their effectiveness. The governors support the head teacher in carrying out these guidelines.

6.2 The head teacher has the day-to-day authority to implement the school behaviour and discipline policy, but governors may give advice to the head teacher about particular disciplinary issues. The head teacher must take this into account when making decisions about matters of behaviour.

7 Fixed-term and permanent exclusions

7.1 Only the head teacher (or the acting head teacher) has the power to exclude a pupil from school. The head teacher may exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods, for up to 45 days in any one school year. The head teacher may also exclude a pupil permanently. It is also possible for the head teacher to convert a fixed-term exclusion into a permanent exclusion, if the circumstances warrant this.

7.2 If the head teacher excludes a pupil, s/he informs the parents immediately, giving reasons for the exclusion. Within 15 school days a disciplinary committee from the governing body meets –the parents are invited and have a chance to state their case. The head teacher will also state the case for the school and the committee will decide whether to uphold the head teacher’s decision. The next stage would be an independent appeal. The school informs the parents how to make any such appeal.

7.3 The head teacher informs the LA and the governing body about any permanent exclusion, and about any fixed-term exclusions beyond five days in any one term.

7.4 The governing body itself cannot either exclude a pupil or extend the exclusion period made by the head teacher.

7.5 The governing body has a discipline committee which is made up of between three and five members. This committee considers any exclusion appeals on behalf of the governors.

7.6 When an appeals panel meets to consider an exclusion, they consider the circumstances in which the pupil was excluded, consider any representation by parents and the LA, and consider whether the pupil should be reinstated.

7.7 If the governors’ appeals panel decides that a pupil should be reinstated and the head teacher disagrees, it may go to an independent appeal panel.

8 Monitoring

8.1 The head teacher monitors the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis. He also reports to the governing body on the effectiveness of the policy and, if necessary, makes recommendations for further improvements.

8.2 Minor incidents are dealt with by staff – other incidents are recorded on a GREEN FORM and given to the head teacher.

8.3 The head teacher keeps a record of any pupil who is suspended for a fixed-term, or who is permanently excluded.

8.4 It is the responsibility of the governing body to monitor exclusions, and to ensure that the school policy is administered fairly and consistently.

9 Review

9.1 The governing body reviews this policy every three years. They governors may, however, review the policy earlier than this, if the government introduces new regulations, or if the governing body receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.