



# Dunstable Icknield Lower School

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## Behaviour Policy & Statement of Behaviour Principles

### 2021-23

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Dunstable Icknield Lower School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.



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## 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide a **consistent approach** to behaviour management
- **Define** what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour, including bullying
- Outline **how pupils are expected to behave**
- Summarise the **roles and responsibilities** of different people in the school community with regards to behaviour management
- Outline our system of **rewards and sanctions**

## 2. Legislation and statutory requirements

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on:

- Behaviour and discipline in schools
- Searching, screening and confiscation at school
- The Equality Act 2010
- Use of reasonable force in schools
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school

It is also based on the special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice. In addition, this policy is based on:

- Section 175 of the Education Act 2002, which outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of its pupils
- Sections 88-94 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, which require schools to regulate pupils' behaviour and publish a behaviour policy and written statement of behaviour principles, and give schools the authority to confiscate pupils' property
- DfE guidance explaining that maintained schools should publish their behaviour policy online

## 3. Definitions

**Misbehaviour** is defined as:

- Disruption in lessons, in corridors between lessons, and at break and lunchtimes
- Non-completion of classwork
- Poor attitude

**Serious misbehaviour** is defined as:

- Repeated breaches of the school rules
- Any form of bullying
- Sexual assault, which is any unwanted sexual behaviour that causes humiliation, pain, fear or intimidation
- Vandalism
- Theft
- Causing physical injury or harm
- Smoking



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- Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory behaviour
- Possession of any prohibited items.

These are:

- Knives or weapons
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Stolen items
- Tobacco and cigarette papers
- Fireworks
- Pornographic images
- Any article a staff member reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil)

## 4. Bullying

**Bullying** is defined as the repetitive, intentional harming of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying is, therefore:

- Deliberately hurtful
- Repeated, often over a period of time
- Difficult to defend against

Bullying can include:

Emotional Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting

Physical Hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another's belongings, any use of violence

Racial Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures

Sexual Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, comments about sexual reputation or performance, or inappropriate touching

Direct or indirect verbal Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing

Cyber-bullying Bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps or gaming sites

Details of our school's approach to preventing and addressing bullying are set out in our anti-bullying policy on the school website.

## 5. Roles and responsibilities



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## 5.1 The governing board

The Governing Board Standards Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the written statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1).

The Governing Board Standards Committee will also review this behaviour policy in conjunction with the headteacher and monitor the policy's effectiveness, holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.

## 5.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for reviewing this behaviour policy in conjunction with the Governing Board Standards Committee, giving due consideration to the school's statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1). The headteacher will also approve this policy.

The headteacher will ensure that the school environment encourages positive behaviour and that staff deal effectively with poor behaviour, and will monitor how staff implement this policy to ensure rewards and sanctions are applied consistently.

## 5.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Implementing the behaviour policy consistently
- Modelling positive behaviour
- Providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular pupils
- Recording behaviour incidents on the school information system

The senior leadership team will support staff in responding to behaviour incidents.

## 5.4 Parents

Parents are expected to:

- Support their child in adhering to the pupil code of conduct
- Inform the school of any changes in circumstances that may affect their child's behaviour
- Discuss any behavioural concerns with the class teacher promptly

## 6. Pupil code of conduct

Pupils are expected to:

- Behave in an orderly and self-controlled way
- Show respect to members of staff and each other
- In class, make it possible for all pupils to learn
- Move quietly around the school
- Treat the school buildings and school property with respect
- Wear the correct uniform at all times
- Accept sanctions when given
- Refrain from behaving in a way that brings the school into disrepute, including when outside school

## 7. Rewards and sanctions

### 7.1 List of rewards and sanctions



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Positive behaviour will be rewarded with:

- Praise
- House Points
- Jewels in the Jar
- Certificate Awards
- Recognition in Assembly
- Individual sticker charts where necessary

The school may use one or more of the following sanctions in response to unacceptable behaviour:

- A verbal reprimand
- Sitting the pupil out of the group/class
- Expecting work to be completed at home, or at break or lunchtime
- Detention at break or lunchtime
- Referring the pupil to a senior member of staff
- Letters or phone calls home to parents
- Meeting with parents
- Agreeing a behaviour action plan
- Recording and monitoring behaviour throughout the day

## **7.2 Off-site behaviour**

Sanctions may be applied where a pupil has misbehaved off-site when representing the school, such as on a school trip.

## **7.3 Malicious allegations**

Where a pupil makes an accusation against a member of staff and that accusation is shown to have been malicious, the headteacher will discipline the pupil in accordance with this policy. Please refer to our safeguarding policy for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff for more information on responding to allegations of abuse.

The headteacher will also consider the pastoral needs of staff accused of misconduct.

## **8. Behaviour management**

### **8.1 Classroom management**

Teaching and support staff are responsible for setting the tone and context for positive behaviour within the classroom.

They will:

- Create and maintain a stimulating environment that encourages pupils to be engaged
- Display their own classroom rules
- Develop a positive relationship with pupils, which may include:
  - Greeting pupils in the morning/at the start of lessons
  - Establishing clear routines



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- Communicating expectations of behaviour in ways other than verbally
- Highlighting and promoting good behaviour
- Concluding the day positively and starting the next day afresh
- Having a plan for dealing with low-level disruption
- Using positive reinforcement

## 8.2 Physical restraint

In some circumstances, staff may use reasonable force to restrain a pupil to prevent them:

- Causing disorder
  - Hurting themselves or others, including from attacking a member of staff or another pupil, and if they are at risk of harming themselves through physical outbursts
  - Damaging property

Incidents of physical restraint must:

- **Always be used as a last resort**
- Be applied using the minimum amount of force and for the minimum amount of time possible
- Be used in a way that maintains the safety and dignity of all concerned
- Never be used as a form of punishment
- Be recorded on the school information system and be reported to parents

## 8.3 Confiscation

**Any prohibited items (listed in section 3) found in pupils' possession will be confiscated.** These items will not be returned to pupils.

We will also confiscate any item which is harmful or detrimental to school discipline. These items will be returned to pupils after discussion with senior leaders and parents, if appropriate. Searching and screening pupils is conducted in line with the DfE's [latest guidance on searching, screening and confiscation](#).

## 8.4 Pupil support

The school recognises its legal duty under the Equality Act 2010 to prevent pupils with a protected characteristic from being at a disadvantage. Consequently, our approach to challenging behaviour may be differentiated to cater to the needs of the pupil.

The school's special educational needs co-ordinator will evaluate a pupil who exhibits challenging behaviour to determine whether they have any underlying needs that are not currently being met. Where necessary, support and advice will also be sought from specialist teachers, an educational psychologist, medical practitioners and/or others, to identify or support specific needs. When acute needs are identified in a pupil, we will liaise with external agencies and plan support programmes for that child. We will work with parents to create the plan and review it on a regular basis.

## 9. Pupil transition

To ensure a smooth transition to the next year, pupils have transition sessions with



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their new teacher(s). In addition, staff members hold transition meetings.

To ensure behaviour is continually monitored and the right support is in place, information related to pupil behaviour issues may be transferred to relevant staff at the start of the term or year.

Information on behaviour issues may also be shared with new settings for those pupils transferring to other schools.

## **10. Training**

Our staff are provided with training on managing behaviour as part of their induction process. Behaviour management will also form part of continuing professional development.

## **11. Monitoring arrangements**

This behaviour policy will be reviewed by the headteacher and Governing Board Standards Committee every two years. At each review, the policy will be approved by the headteacher. The written statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1) will be reviewed and approved by the Governing Board Standards Committee every two years.

## **12. Links with other policies**

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policies:

- Anti-bullying policy
- Safeguarding policy





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## Appendix 1: written statement of behaviour principles

- Every pupil understands they have the right to feel safe, valued and respected, and learn free from the disruption of others
- All pupils, staff and visitors are free from any form of discrimination
- Staff and volunteers set an excellent example to pupils at all times
- Rewards, sanctions and reasonable force are used consistently by staff, in line with the behaviour policy
- The behaviour policy is understood by pupils and staff
- Pupils are helped to take responsibility for their actions
- Families are involved in behaviour incidents to foster good relationships between the school and pupils' home life

The Governing Board also emphasises that violence or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated in any circumstances by any adult or child.

This written statement of behaviour principles is reviewed and approved by the Governing Board Standards Committee every two years