Behaviour policy and statement of behaviour principles

Ravensden CE Primary Academy

Approved by:	Anna Spyropoulos	**Date:** Autumn 2021	
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Contents

1. Aims 2
2. Legislation and statutory requirements 3
3. Definitions 3
4. Bullying 4
5. Roles and responsibilities 5
6. Pupil code of conduct 5
7. Rewards and sanctions 6
8. Behaviour management 7
9. Pupil transition 8
10. Training 8
11. Monitoring arrangements 8
12. Links with other policies 9
    Appendix 1: written statement of behaviour principles 10
    Appendix 2: staff training log 11
    Appendix 3: behaviour log 13
    Appendix 4: letters to parents about pupil behaviour - templates 14

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Provide a consistent approach to behaviour management
- Define what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour, including bullying and discrimination
- 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
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- 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:

- Schedule 1 of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014; paragraph 7 outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, paragraph 9 requires the school to have a written behaviour policy and paragraph 10 requires the school to have an anti-bullying strategy
- DfE guidance explaining that academies should publish their behaviour policy and anti-bullying strategy online

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Definitions

Misbehaviour is defined as:

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

Serious misbehaviour is defined as:

- Repeated breaches of the school rules
- Any form of bullying
- Sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration, or sexual assault (intentional sexual touching without consent)
- Sexual harassment, meaning unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, such as:
    - Sexual comments
    - Sexual jokes or taunting
    - Physical behaviour like interfering with clothes
    - Online sexual harassment such as unwanted sexual comments and messages (including on social media), sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos, or sharing of unwanted explicit content
- Vandalism
- Theft

- Fighting
- Smoking
- 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:

TYPE OF BULLYING	DEFINITION
Emotional	Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
Physical	Hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another's belongings, any use of violence
Prejudice-based and discriminatory, including: • Racial • Faith-based • Gendered (sexist) • Homophobic/biphobic • Transphobic • Disability-based	Taunts, gestures, graffiti or physical abuse focused on a particular characteristic (e.g. gender, race, sexuality)
Sexual	Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, comments about sexual reputation or performance, or inappropriate touching

TYPE OF BULLYING	DEFINITION
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

5. Roles and responsibilities

5.1 The governing board

The governing board is responsible for monitoring this behaviour policy's effectiveness and holding the headteacher to account for its implementation.

5.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for reviewing and approving this behaviour 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 (see appendix 3 for a behaviour log)

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 show our school values at all time, and live our vision statement- "Let your light shine!"

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

When children follow the school values they will be rewarded with an acknowledgement that they have done so which is recorded on Class Dojo. The school values are threaded into our school ethos and children throughout the school are able to recognise when they have shown one of them. By the same measure they are also able to identify when they haven't shown them.
Children that do not follow our school values will receive a sanction (a cloud) This should be used for all low level misbehaviour and be taken seriously by children and staff. If inappropriate behaviour continues then a child's name will be moved to the rain cloud and they will be given their second warning.
This second warning will mean they will need to receive 'time out' and be sent to the teacher in charge of their family (rain cloud). The teacher should send the child with a reflection sheet. The class teacher should address the issue in class first before sending the child for reflection time out. The length of the time out should be age appropriate and should be a time for the child to reflect on the behaviour / calm down and complete the reflection sheet. If inappropriate behaviour continues in the same day, then they will receive their third warning and be sent to Mrs Spyropoulos (thunder cloud). This will be dealt with seriously and will inform the class teacher. The parent will be informed. Please note there are a small minority of children with special educational needs who will have a slightly amended behaviour plan to the whole school. Separate information will be given about these children.

7.1 Zero-tolerance approach to sexual harassment and sexual violence

The school will ensure that all incidents of sexual harassment and/or violence are met with a suitable response, and never ignored.

Pupils are encouraged to report anything that makes them uncomfortable, no matter how 'small' they feel it might be.

The school's response will be:

- Proportionate
- Considered
- Supportive
- Decided on a case-by-case basis

Sanctions for sexual harassment and violence may include:

The school has procedures in place to respond to any allegations or concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing. These include clear processes for:

- Responding to a report
- Carrying out risk assessments, where appropriate, to help determine whether to:
    - Manage the incident internally
    - Refer to early help
    - Refer to children's social care
    - Report to the police

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information

7.3 Malicious allegations

Where a pupil makes an allegation against a member of staff and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will discipline the pupil in accordance with this policy.

Where a pupil makes an allegation of sexual violence or sexual harassment against another pupil and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will discipline the pupil in accordance with this policy.

In all cases where an allegation is determined to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious, the school (in collaboration with the local authority designated officer, where relevant) will consider whether the pupil who made the allegation is in need of help, or the allegation may have been a cry for help. If so, a referral to children's social care may be appropriate.

The school will also consider the pastoral needs of staff and pupils accused of misconduct.

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding for more information on responding to allegations of abuse against staff or other pupils.

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 the pupil code of conduct or 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
    - Highlighting and promoting good behaviour
    - Concluding the day positively and starting the next day afresh
    - Using positive reinforcement and our rewards

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
- 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 and reported to parents

8.3 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.

8.4 Safeguarding

The school recognises that changes in behaviour may be an indicator that a pupil is in need of help or protection. We will consider whether a pupil's misbehaviour may be linked to them suffering, or being likely to suffer, significant harm. Where this may be the case, we will follow our child protection and safeguarding policy.

9. Pupil transition

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

10. Training

Our staff are provided with training on managing behaviour, including proper use of restraint, as part of their induction process.

Behaviour management will also form part of continuing professional development.

A staff training log can be found in appendix 2.

11. Monitoring arrangements

This behaviour policy will be reviewed by the headteacher. At each review, the policy will be approved by the headteacher.

12. Links with other policies

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policies:

- Exclusions policy
- Child protection and safeguarding policy

Appendix 1: written statement of behaviour principles

Every child has the right to learn but no child has the right to disrupt the learning of others

 Everyone has a right to be listened to, to be valued, to feel and be safe. Everyone must be protected from disruption or abuse

 Ravensden C E Primary Academy is an inclusive school; all members of the school community should be free from discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010

 It is expected that all adults – staff, volunteers and governors – will set excellent examples to the children at all times

 We seek to give every child a sense of personal responsibility for his/her own actions

 The school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy will ensure that there are measures to encourage good behaviour, self-discipline and respect, and prevent all forms of bullying amongst pupils; it also provides guidance on use of reasonable force

 Where there are significant concerns over a pupil's behaviour, the school will work with parents to strive for common strategies between home and school

 The school will seek advice and support from appropriate outside agencies where concerns arise over a child's behaviour

 The school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy will clearly reflect the school's approach to exclusions

 The school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy will set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against pupils who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff

 The school will fulfil its' legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of safeguarding, children with special educational needs and all vulnerable children

 The school will keep abreast of current issues and initiatives with regard to Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and related regulations

Appendix 2: staff training log

TRAINING RECEIVED	DATE COMPLETED	TRAINER / TRAINING ORGANISATION	TRAINER'S SIGNATURE	STAFF MEMBER'S SIGNATURE	SUGGESTED REVIEW DATE

Appendix 3: behaviour log

PUPIL'S NAME:	
NAME OF STAFF MEMBER REPORTING THE INCIDENT:	
DATE:	
WHERE DID THE INCIDENT TAKE PLACE?	
WHEN DID THE INCIDENT TAKE PLACE? (BEFORE SCHOOL, AFTER SCHOOL, LUNCHTIME, BREAK TIME)	
WHAT HAPPENED?	
WHO WAS INVOLVED?	
WHAT ACTIONS WERE TAKEN, INCLUDING ANY SANCTIONS?	
IS ANY FOLLOW-UP ACTION NEEDED? IF SO, GIVE DETAILS	
PEOPLE INFORMED OF THE INCIDENT (STAFF, GOVERNORS, PARENTS, POLICE):	

Appendix 4: letters to parents about pupil behaviour - templates

First behaviour letter

Dear parent,

Recently, your child _____ has not been behaving as well in school as they could.

It is important that your child understands the need to follow our pupil code of conduct, and I would appreciate it if you could discuss their behaviour with them.

If your child's behaviour does not improve, I will contact you again and suggest that we meet to discuss how we can work together. However, at this stage I am confident that a reminder of how to behave appropriately will be sufficient.

Yours sincerely,

Class teacher name: _____

Class teacher signature: _____

Date: _____

Behaviour letter – return slip

Please return this slip to school to confirm you have received this letter. Thank you.

Name of child: _____

Parent name: _____

Parent signature: _____

Date: _____

Second behaviour letter

Dear parent,

Following my previous letter regarding the behaviour of _____, I am sorry to say that they are still struggling to adhere to our pupil code of conduct.

I would appreciate it if you could arrange to meet me after school so we can discuss a way forward.

Yours sincerely,

Class teacher name: _____

Class teacher signature: _____

Date: _____

Third behaviour letter

Dear parent,

I am sorry to report that, despite meeting and creating a behaviour contract, _____ has continued to misbehave.

_____ would now benefit from a structured approach to help improve their behaviour in school.

I would be grateful if you could attend a meeting with the headteacher, the special educational needs co-ordinator and myself, to discuss how we can best support your child in improving their behaviour.

Yours sincerely,

Class teacher name: _____

Class teacher signature: _____

Date: _____

Detention letter

Dear parent,

I am writing to inform you that _____ has been given a detention on this date _____ at this time _____.

The reason(s) for this detention are set out below.

_____

_____

_____

If you need to see me about this matter, please call the school to make an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

Class teacher name: _____

Class teacher signature: _____

Date: _____

Detention letter – return slip

Please return this slip to school to confirm you have received this letter. Thank you.

Name of child: _____

Parent name: _____

Parent signature: _____

Date: _____