

# Bishop Pursglove Church of England (VA) Primary School



## **Behaviour Policy**

Bishop Pursglove C of E Primary School is dedicated to ensuring that our school environment supports learning and the wellbeing of pupils and staff through a strong sense of community cohesion. Cooperation, support, and respect are the foundations of our community and we work hard to provide a safe school where pupils feel included in every aspect of school life and comfortable to voice their opinions.

This policy outlines what we expect from all our pupils in terms of their behaviour, and the sanctions that will be enforced if this policy is not adhered to. It extends to all members of our school community and is written in line with our governing body's statement of behaviour principles. Good behaviour and self-discipline have strong links to effective learning, and are vital for pupils to carry with them both during and after their school years.

### **1. Aims**

Bishop Pursglove C of E Primary School believes that all pupils should be aware of the standards of behaviour that are expected of them, and takes responsibility for promoting these standards. We hope that by encouraging positive behaviour patterns we can promote good relationships throughout the school built on trust and understanding, and that through the use of this policy we can support all of our pupils in developing a high level of social awareness. Our aim is to ensure that all our pupils leave the school with the key skills they need to continue to progress to the best of their ability in all areas of life.

### **2. School code of conduct**

The school refers to the standards of behaviour below. The school has a Staff code of conduct in place.

### **3. Standards of behaviour**

#### **3.1 School**

The school understands that the first step to modelling good behaviour is to lead by example, which means that all staff, volunteers, and anyone else who comes to the school must act responsibly and professionally, and will never denigrate pupils or colleagues. We work hard to ensure that discipline is consistent across the school so that behaviour boundaries and sanctions are clear to all and are applied fairly, proportionately, and without discrimination, taking into account SEN needs and disabilities as well as the additional challenges that some vulnerable pupils may face. Staff are trained to deal with behavioural strategies as part of their continual professional development, and are well informed of the extent of their disciplinary authority.

We work with parents to understand their children and their behaviour and believe that in conjunction with behaviour boundaries and sanctions, good support systems, praise, and rewards for good behaviour are an important part of building an effective learning community. The school will report behaviour, good or bad, to parents regularly. We encourage parents to communicate with the school if they have a concern about their child's behaviour, and we will do as much as is possible to support parents as and when they need it. We promote good behaviour within the school curriculum and reminders of school rules and expected standards of behaviour are up on walls in classrooms and situated around the school.



Staff are a constant presence around the school, in-between classes, during breaks in the school day, and at lunch times, to check that pupils are using the school grounds respectfully and behaving appropriately.

We recognise that where individual pupils are engaging in continuing disruptive behaviour this can be as a result of unmet mental health needs. If such needs are identified we will do all we can to ensure that the pupil receives appropriate support.

The school will take all reasonable measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils and staff and this includes protection from bullying. We aim to combat bullying and other harmful behaviour using, amongst others, preventative strategies through the active development of pupils' social, emotional and behavioural skills. For more information, see section 5 of this policy.

### 3.2 Pupils

The school expects all of its pupils to show respect to one another, to school staff, and anyone else that they may meet. Incidents of bullying, denigration, or bringing intentional harm to other pupils or staff will not be tolerated. Pupils are ambassadors to our school even when off school premises, and we expect them to act accordingly. They are expected to obey school rules, listen, follow instructions by staff, and accept and learn from any sanctions that they receive. This extends to any arrangements put in place to support their behaviour, such as pastoral support programmes or parenting contracts. School work and homework should be well presented, completed to a high standard, and handed in on time. The school asks that pupils carefully read and then sign a **home-school agreement** to show that they have understood what is expected of them and acknowledge the responsibility that they have for their own behaviour.

Under no circumstances will illegal or inappropriate items be brought into school, and all pupils will respect and look after the school premises and environment. The following behaviour is regarded as completely unacceptable and will result in disciplinary actions and possibly in exclusion, depending on the circumstances. For more information on exclusions, see our **exclusion policy**.

- verbal abuse to staff and others
- verbal abuse to pupils
- physical abuse to/attack on staff
- physical abuse to/attack on pupils
- indecent behaviour
- damage to property
- misuse of illegal drugs
- misuse of other substances
- theft
- serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff
- sexual abuse or assault
- supplying an illegal drug
- carrying an offensive weapon
- arson
- unacceptable behaviour which has previously been reported and for which school sanctions and other interventions have not been successful in modifying the pupil's behaviour.

### 3.3 Parents

Parents play a big part in ensuring that their children are responsible for their own behaviour in school. Building school life into a natural routine: ensuring that your child is at school on time, appropriately dressed, rested, and equipped will encourage your child to adhere to school rules and procedures. We ask parents to work with the school in support of their child's learning, which includes informing the school of any special education needs or personal factors that may result in their child displaying unexpected behaviour. We ask that parents be prepared to attend meetings at the school with staff or the headteacher to discuss their child's behaviour and to adhere to any parenting contracts put in place.

In the case of exclusions, we ask that parents provide appropriate supervision for their child during the time that they are excluded from school and, if invited, to attend a reintegration interview at the school with their child.

## 4. School rules that apply at all times to all members of the school community

- Always be on time.
- Keep your appearance smart and tidy, and wear regulatory school uniform at all times to and from school.
- Rude, derogatory, racist or defamatory language will not be tolerated.

- Be considerate of your peers and the extended community. Do not run through hallways and corridors, do not shout out during lessons, or shout to one another in hallways, or when in public places.
- Be polite and respectful at all times. This applies to staff, other pupils, any visitors to the school, and to members of the general public.
- Take care of your environment, both on the school site and outside, and keep it tidy. Do not litter and do not vandalise property in any way.
- Unauthorised absence from school will not be tolerated.
- Health and safety equipment is only for use in emergency situations and should not be tampered with under any circumstances.
- Disobeying staff is not tolerated.
- The following items are not allowed in school under any circumstances:
  - Alcohol and drugs
  - Cigarettes, matches, and lighters
  - Chewing gum
  - Weapons of any kind
  - Material that is inappropriate or illegal for children to have; such as racist or pornographic material
  - Mobile phones.

#### **4.1 Drugs**

The school will not tolerate drug use of any sort on school property or during off-site school activities. The school takes its anti-drugs policy very seriously and will discipline any person found to be in possession of drugs. This includes solvents and any other substance that can be misused or harmful. Pupils may be permanently excluded if they are found to be involved in drug-related incidents. This includes supplying, possessing, or taking drugs.

**Prescription drugs** Carrying, supplying or taking prescription drugs illegitimately could result in a permanent exclusion.

#### **Non-prescription drugs**

Some over-the-counter drugs can be harmful if misused. Pupils should not bring these into school.

#### **Medication**

We are aware that it may be necessary for some pupils to take medication during the school day. Parents should fill in a form if they wish staff to administer medication. Medication should be stored securely in the staff room or the Headteacher's office.

#### **4.2 Alcohol**

Consuming, carrying or supplying alcohol is strictly prohibited. Any pupil involved in any alcohol-related activity may be permanently excluded.

**All of these rules also apply when travelling to and from school.**

### **5. Bullying**

Bishop Purglove C of E Primary wants to make sure that all pupils feel safe at school, and accepted into our school community. Our ethos is one of inclusion and equality; bullying of any kind is regarded as a serious breach of our behaviour policy and will not be tolerated, whether it is a one-off incident or an ongoing campaign.

Bullying can be verbal or physical, and can be directed at both staff and pupils. The school practices a preventative strategy to reduce the chances of bullying, and our anti-bullying policy is instilled in our curriculum and everything we do at the school. It is made very clear to pupils what is expected of them in terms of respecting their peers, members of the public, and staff, and any intentional breach of this will result in disciplinary action.

If an allegation of bullying does come up, the school will:

- take it seriously
- act as quickly as possible to establish the facts
- record and report the incident; depending on how serious the case is, it may be reported to the headteacher
- provide support and reassurance to the victim

- make it clear to the 'bully' that this behaviour will not be tolerated. If there is a group of people involved, they will be spoken to individually and as a whole group. It is important that children who have harmed another, either physically or emotionally, redress their actions, and the school will make sure that they understand what they have done and the impact of their actions
- ensure that if a sanction is used, it will correlate to the seriousness of the incident and the 'bully' will be told why it is being used
- consider a fixed term exclusion in cases of repeated bullying.

## 6. Disciplinary sanctions

Section 91 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 introduced a statutory power for teachers and certain other staff to discipline pupils. Bishop Purglove CE Primary operates using the following disciplinary measures: We have a traffic light discipline system in school. All children start the day in the Green zone and can work their way up the coloured zones by meeting set criteria of behaviour. If children make inappropriate choices then a warning is given and if not accepted they are moved to the RED zone and a sanction is put in place. If they achieve Gold then this results in achieving gold standard and being rewarded by receiving special Gold behaviour stickers, Gold right choice cards and a chance to attend a GOLD Golden time activity. Positive behaviour is rewarded through the use of stickers, certificates and house points. Serious incidents or continued unacceptable behaviour results in a child moving onto red and a phone call is made to parents and a meeting is arranged to discuss ways to move forward. Sanctions are adapted relating to the seriousness and frequency of the behaviour.

### 6.1 Searching and confiscation

Following guidance set out by the Education and Inspections Act 2006, our members of staff are authorised to use confiscation as a disciplinary sanction if it is lawful. This means that staff may confiscate or seize items in the possession of pupils that are illegal, or banned by the school. It is our first priority to ensure that pupils are in a safe and secure environment when they are in our care, and any items that may jeopardise the safety of other pupils or themselves will be taken off pupils without notice.

A teacher or someone who has lawful control of the child can search a pupil **with their permission** to look for any item that the school's rules say must not be brought into school. Headteachers and other members of staff authorised by them have the power to search a pupil **without the pupil's consent** if they suspect they are in possession of 'prohibited items'. Prohibited items that can be searched for without consent include:

- knives or weapons
- alcohol
- illegal drugs
- stolen items
- tobacco and cigarette papers
- fireworks
- pornographic images
- articles that have been or could be used to commit an offence or cause harm.

The Education Act 2011 allows for staff seizing an electronic device to examine any data or files on the device if they think there is good reason to do so. These data or files may be erased before returning the item if they believe there is good reason to do this.

Any cigarettes confiscated in school will be destroyed.

### 6.2 Use of force

Section 93 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 enables school staff to use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances to prevent a pupil from doing, or continuing to do, any of the following:

- committing any offence (or, for a pupil under the age of criminal responsibility, what would be an offence for an older pupil);
- causing personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any pupil (including him or herself); or
- Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school or among any pupils receiving education at the school, whether during a teaching session or otherwise.
- Bishop Purglove CE Primary does not encourage the use of force and it will be used very rarely in special circumstances. There is no definition of when it is reasonable to use force, and every situation will have to be judged by the person in charge at that time. The degree of force used should be the minimum needed to achieve the desired result.

All staff at the school have the authority to use force when reasonable, and this extends to any other person whom the head has given the responsibility to be in charge or in control of the pupils. Staff can also use this power when they are lawfully in charge of pupils but off the school premises – i.e., on a school trip.

Following serious incidents involving the use of force, the school will speak to the parents concerned. It is up to schools to decide whether it is an appropriate occasion to report the use of force to parents.

Such serious incidents involving the use of force will also be recorded by the school.

## 7. Attendance

Regular attendance at school is required by law, and Bishop Purglove CE Primary takes attendance very seriously. There is a register taken daily and disciplinary action will be taken against any pupils who are discovered to be truanting or are repeatedly late. Parents or carers will be contacted to discuss possible reasons and school support systems that could help. More information can be found in the school's **attendance policy**.

## 8. Uniform and appearance

Effective teaching and learning needs proper organisation, and this starts with a smart and tidy appearance which helps to instil discipline and pride in appearance in pupils, and reduces the risk of distraction in lessons.

The standard uniform is as follows:

Gold Polo Shirt  
Navy school jumper/cardigan  
Navy/Grey Skirt/trousers/dress  
Black Shoes

The school uniform should be worn by all pupils from Reception through to year 6. Pupils who come in repeatedly without the correct school uniform on may be sent home to change.

## 9. Regulating pupil's offsite conduct

Pupils who are caught or known to have been misbehaving on the way to or from school, or near the school premises, will be disciplined by the school. This also applies to pupils who break school conduct during work experience, school trips, or extended school activities such as sports events, or any event where poor behaviour might jeopardise the chances of future pupils participating.

## 10. Rewards policy

Bishop Purglove C of E Primary School believes that it is important to encourage good conduct throughout the school by celebrating and rewarding good behaviour. We have a houses system in school where children are given the opportunity to earn points for their team. We have a celebration assembly every Friday where we praise and recognise children's achievements and good behaviour.

## 11. Complaints

The school has a standard complaints procedure. We encourage parents to take any complaints or concerns to a staff member or the headteacher, and the school will do everything in its power to help resolve conflict or complaints swiftly and effectively. For details of the full complaints procedure see our school complaints policy. For information on complaints relating to exclusions, see the school exclusions policy.

Signed by

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Chair of Governors  
Headteacher

Date policy was adopted: January 2017

Date of next policy review: January 20120