



Behaviour Policy for Secondary School

Aims and Objectives

In keeping with our firm belief in Human Values, 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's 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 in which everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

Our behaviour policy is a means of promoting good relationships; it supports the school community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective, harmonious, cooperative, loving and considerate way. The school expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others. We treat all children fairly and apply this behaviour policy in a consistent way. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter undesired behaviour.

Positive Discipline

At Green Valley we believe in not labelling children as 'good' or 'bad' but rather focusing on 'good' or 'bad' actions and behaviours as we believe that all children can make positive changes through self-observation and empathising with others. We can teach and reinforce the good behaviours while stopping the undesired behaviours. We are actively involved in helping our students learn how to handle situations more appropriately while remaining calm, friendly and respectful. Positive Discipline is about connecting with the child to find the reasons for a particular behaviour. We follow the 'ABC' (Antecedent, Behaviour, Consequence) method whereby we encourage students to firstly understand the **A**ntecedents or root cause of their **B**ehaviour, and to then become aware of the **C**onsequences their choices may bring about for themselves and others.

Direct & Effective Communication between the School and Parents/Carers

The school collaborates actively with parents and carers, so that children receive consistent messages about how to behave at home and at school. We try to build a supportive dialogue between the home and the school, and we inform parents and carers immediately if we have concerns about their child's welfare or behaviour. We work closely with parents and carers to support their child's learning, and to cooperate with the school.

If the school has to implement a serious consequence with a child, we inform the parents and carers in order to work collaboratively and so parents/carers can support the actions of the school. If parents and carers have any concerns about the way that their child has been treated they should contact the relevant Director.

How do we Implement the Behaviour Policy and place it into Action?

The school employs a number of consequences to enforce the school rules, and to ensure a safe and positive learning environment. We employ each consequence appropriately to each individual situation. In the class environment the following applies:

- **First**, if a child is disruptive in class, the teacher gives them a verbal notice giving the student an opportunity to make the right choice and improve their behaviour. The same action is repeated with a second verbal notice. The teacher may choose to change the child's seating position if he/she considers this may help.
- **Second**, if after the first two verbal notices the student has not changed their behaviour, as a consequence, the teacher will inform the relevant Director, Human Values Director and/or School Psychologist who will then take the child out of class to talk to them individually so that they can reflect upon their behaviour and its consequences, with the aim of changing and making a better choice. The student is then sent back into class.
- **Third**, if after being sent back to class the child still does not improve their behaviour, they will be sent again to the relevant Director and, apart from missing the rest of the class, will have to recover the work missed during their lunch break or workshop time. A meeting will also take place between the child, subject teacher and relevant Director.
- **Fourth**, if the situation is repetitive and does not improve, the child is placed on a behaviour chart to monitor their behaviour closely, and a meeting is called with the child's parents and to discuss the next steps and further consequences.

Monitoring and Review of Behaviour Incidents

The school keeps a variety of records concerning incidents of misbehaviour. The class teacher records minor classroom incidents. The relevant Director keeps records of all reported serious incidents of misbehaviour and of those incidents in which a child is sent to him/her on account of bad behaviour. We also keep a record of any incidents that occur at break or lunchtimes: lunchtime supervisors give written details of any incident in the incidents record that we keep.

Fixed Term and Permanent Exclusions

The relevant Director, after prior approval of the General Manager, may consider the need of a short term (1 to 3 day) suspension/exclusion from school for serious acts of misbehaviour which include bullying, physical aggression, serious verbal lack of respect towards a member of staff or student, repeated or very serious acts of anti-social behaviour, etc. The relevant Director will offer the parents/carers a reintegration interview when it is a fixed-term exclusion. A strategy will be put together for reintegrating pupils that return to school following a fixed period exclusion, and for managing their future behaviour.

Unfortunately, if the situation repeats itself after a short term suspension and is not resolved, the General Manager may permanently exclude a child or not renew their admission for the following year. This action is only taken after all possible solutions have been attempted & after consultation & agreement with the whole Directing Team.

Miscellaneous

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 child, the class teacher records the incident and an adequate consequence will be given to the student after informing the relevant Director and parents/carers. The school does not tolerate bullying of any kind. If we discover that an act of bullying or intimidation has taken place, we act immediately to stop any further occurrences of such behaviour. In a conscious and determined attempt to eradicate bullying, we do everything in our power to ensure that all children attend school free from fear. (*Further reference can be made to the school's Anti-bullying Policy and Child Protection Policy*)