

St Michael's Catholic Primary School Behaviour and Discipline Policy

In formulating and applying this policy, the Governing Body and Staff of our Catholic school seek to promote and implement in relevant ways the aims and intentions of the Mission Statement, *'Praise the Lord in Work, Play and Prayer'*, that has been agreed by the whole school community.

The staff and children of our school have clear expectations of what we consider to be acceptable and appropriate behaviour. We have established a set of rules and a code of conduct that all are expected to follow.

It is expected that all people entering our school will be dealt with in a fair and courteous manner. In the same way that staff have high expectations about the attitudes and the good behaviour of children, the children too may expect to be treated in a fair and Christian way.

The boundaries of acceptable behaviour are clearly established by all staff, teaching and non-teaching.

A set of rules and a code of conduct is laid down which all are expected to follow.

The school rules are definite and are as follows:

1. Everyone should act with courtesy and consideration to others at all times.

Pupils should:
 2. Move quietly and sensibly around the school.
 3. Speak politely to everyone.
 4. be silent when required to be.
 5. In class pupils should make it easy for everyone to learn and for the teacher to teach.
(Children should get to desks quickly and in an orderly fashion, they should listen carefully, following instructions, help each other where appropriate, and be quiet and sensible.
 6. be friendly and considerate in the playground.
 7. be mindful that they represent the school when engaged in outside of school activities.
 8. Be in the right place at the right time.
 9. Always listen and try to understand others' point of view.

In the main the children of our school are well behaved and those working with the children use positive strategies to reward and encourage the good behaviour of our pupils.

Awards for good work and good behaviour

Staff regularly will praise the children for their hard work and efforts. Staff write positive comments when marking the children's work. House points, stickers and smiley faces are given as points of encouragement. House points are added up every week and the winning house is announced in the Headteacher's assembly with points being placed on the house shields. The children are verbally praised both in class and where appropriate in main school assemblies. Encouragement and recognition of good behaviour will sometimes include physical contact appropriate to the age and needs of the child. Examples are a hug for younger children and a pat on the back for older ones.

Where a child produces work of a high standard and or where a child has put a tremendous amount of effort into their work the Headteacher will see the work and will also praise the children and write comments and give stickers for their efforts.

The Headteacher may also give the children a special Headteacher award for their efforts.

Annual Awards

During the year all children have the opportunity to work towards achieving up to three behaviour awards, bronze, silver and gold.

If a child is noted for good behaviour for ten weeks of the year they will receive a Bronze Behaviour Award. If they behave well for twenty weeks of the year they will receive a Silver Behaviour Award. If a child displays exemplary behaviour throughout the academic year they will receive a Gold Behaviour Award. The weeks do not need to be ten consecutive weeks.

Those children attaining the Gold award by the end of the academic year will be invited to attend an end of term summer picnic with the Headteacher of the school. (Review of the behaviour management system that was put into place during the 2009/2010 academic year indicated that the children valued the picnic and would wish the picnic to remain as the end of year treat for all those who had displayed exemplary behaviour throughout the academic year).

Sanctions for Misbehaviour

If a child disrupts a lesson in such a way that this will affect his/her or other children's education the Headteacher will be informed.

If a child contravenes the school rules or does demonstrate behaviour which is not considered acceptable within our school ethos the children will be disciplined. In line with the law of the land at no point will corporal punishment be administered but those dealing with the children will uphold a firm discipline policy which is well established in our school. Staff may use such reasonable physical force as is necessary to restrain children if they are in danger of injuring themselves, other children or adults or damaging property, or engaging in any behaviour prejudicial to maintaining good order and discipline at the school or among any of its pupils.

Where children have behaved inappropriately all the children involved will be listened to and the two sides of any one story will be listened to.

The children are always encouraged to tell the truth.

As part of the disciplinary procedure the children are asked if they feel they have been dealt with fairly and are told that their behaviour is unacceptable and why it is so. The children are then told that they must be punished for their misbehaviour. The sanction is discussed with the children and also with the parents when this is thought to be necessary. The support of parents in upholding the schools discipline policy is expected to be forthcoming.

The child will be spoken to and if the behaviour reoccurs then parents will also be informed and asked to support the school in any sanctions.

It is expected that children who attend our school will not bully, fight, steal, vandalise or swear.

If any of these incidents occur the Head will be informed. The Headteacher will always inform parents who will be expected to assist the school in upholding the firm but fair approach to discipline.

If a child damages school property parents will be asked to contribute to the cost of replacements or repairs.

In cases where the child persists in behaving badly a further range of strategies will be used.

Detention

In some cases a decision may be taken to use detention as a sanction. Parents are informed that a decision may be taken to detain pupils after a school session on disciplinary grounds. Any detention given will be reasonable and appropriate to the offence.

The school will also take into account any special circumstances about individual pupils such as their age and any special educational needs.

During the summer term 2010 staff within our school consulted with parents and pupils as we undertook a review of the school's behaviour policy and practice. As a result of the consultation and review process the school's behaviour policy and practice includes the following rewards and sanction strategies:-

On a daily basis children are given many opportunities to be praised for their good behaviour. At the start of each morning and afternoon all children start again with a 'clean slate'. If the children behave well on a daily basis this behaviour will lead to the children taking part in a 'golden playtime' session that is held on Friday afternoons.

There may be occasions when a pupil does not behave in line with school expectations. The child is given up to three separate warnings to address their behaviour and it is at the point when the child has received the third warning that their name will be placed in the consequence book.

If a child has their name placed in the consequence book then they will not have the 'golden play' session. If they are in the consequence book three times in one week they are placed in a lunchtime detention (key stage 2 pupils only).

Parents should be aware that certain codes of unacceptable behaviour will lead to a member of staff issuing an immediate detention to a pupil. Such unacceptable behaviour, which is referred to as a red card offence, includes:

- Any behaviour or action that could be considered to be racist (the school also has separate procedures for dealing with any racist incidents that may arise).
- Fighting
- Bad language
- Wilfully defacing or damaging the property of other children or school property.
- Stealing

If a child's behaviour leads to them being placed in a detention on two occasions in a half term, parents will be invited to meet with me in order that ways in which home and school can work together to address their child's behaviour can be discussed.

Exclusion

St. Michael's school expects most misbehaviour to be resolved without resorting to exclusion.

In the rare case of extremely poor behaviour where all sanctions have been used and when a child fails to conform to what is considered to be appropriate behaviour the Headteacher will not hesitate to use the sanction of excluding the pupil from attending the school for a fixed period of time. Should the Head employ this sanction, Governors, LEA, parents and Diocese will be informed of the Headteacher's decision and parents will be informed of their right to appeal against the Headteacher's decision. Parents are informed that with effect from September 1998 the Headteacher may exclude a pupil for up to 45 days in any academic year. Obviously the sanction of excluding a pupil from receipt of their education will never be taken without much consideration. If it is necessary to exclude a child for more than 1 or 2 days the school will arrange for the pupil to receive school work to do at home and to have it marked until he or she returns to school.

The school will liaise with the LEA about suitable educational provision in the case of exclusion for 15 days or more. If the poor behaviour persists or if any incident is judged extremely serious the Head will permanently exclude the child. Should this most extreme sanction ever need to be used LEA, Diocese, Governors and parents of the child will be kept fully informed and guideline procedures, issued by the DFEE, LEA and Diocese will be closely followed. Parents will of course be informed of their right to appeal against the decision to permanently exclude.

Where poor behaviour at lunch time break occurs and does not improve after discussions between the Headteacher, child and parents, lunch time exclusion may be imposed. This may be for a short or long period depending on individual circumstances including the child's attitude.

The school does not work in isolation. The school's discipline policy will only be effective when children, staff, parents, Governors and outside agencies work together to promote an atmosphere where good behaviour is actively promoted and where poor behaviour, bullying, vandalism and fighting will not be tolerated. Poor behaviour undoubtedly affects others and their education and well being. As the Headteacher of the school I ask that parents support the school and that as partners we work collaboratively to make St Michael's a place where our children will be expected to behave appropriately and treat others with the care and respect they deserve. In turn children enter a school where regardless of gender, race, or colour they may expect to be treated with care, consideration, fairness and justice.

The aim of St. Michael's school is to ensure that the behaviour of each one of our pupils is judged to be exemplary. We are confident that with the full support of parents we can work together to ensure that all pupils behave well and are a credit to their families and their school.

Should anyone have any queries or concerns about school discipline please do not hesitate to contact the Headteacher who is always happy to discuss any matters pertaining to school policy.

Policy reviewed and approved.....

Signed.....(Chair of Governors)