



St George and St Teresa Catholic School Governors' Statement of General Principles with Regard to Behaviour

Approved by: Full Governing Body

Date: October 2023

Last reviewed on:

Next review due by: October 2026

Signed by:

Tina Willmot

Chair of Governors

Signed by:

Louise Flanagan

Executive Head Teacher

MISSION STATEMENT

St. George & St. Teresa School is a Catholic School where we show love and care to all members of the community.

It is a place where the Trinity is central to our lives; where we pray together, praising Almighty God, learning about Him and growing closer to Him.

It is a place where we work together, living our faith, and learning together, sharing and developing our knowledge, skills and understanding through all aspects of the curriculum.

It is a place where we endeavour to live as Christians in a multicultural, multi ethnic society.

Faith

We live it,

Love it

And Learn it.

The Gospel Values pertinent to this policy are:

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by our just actions and forgiving words.

Rational and Process

This statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act, 2006 and DfE guidance (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools, 2014). The purpose of this statement is to provide guidance to the Headteacher in drawing up the schools' behaviour policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of governors, staff and parents for the children in school as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters. It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of discipline and sanctions and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the Governors' support when following this guidance.

This is a statement of principles, not practice; it is the responsibility of the Headteacher to draw up the school's behaviour policy, though she must take account of these principles when formulating this. The Headteacher is also asked to take account of the guidance of DfE publication Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: a guide for Headteachers and staff.

The school behaviour policy must be publicised, in writing, to staff, parents/carers and children at least once a year.

Principles

- The Governors of St George and St Teresa Catholic Primary School believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school that (a) enables all its children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life and work and (b) all staff to be able to teach and promote good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
- The Governors wish the School Mission Statement to be at the heart of everything the policy stands for.
- All children and staff must have the right to feel safe at all times in school and on school activities and visits. There should be mutual respect between staff and children and between each other. All visitors to the school should feel safe and free from the effects of poor behaviour at all times and in all parts of the school.
- St George and St Teresa Catholic Primary School is an inclusive school. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort (as laid down in the Equality Act 2010). To this end the school must have a clear and comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy that is known and understood by all, consistently applied, monitored and where appropriate, incidents recorded. Measures to protect children from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of safeguarding, pupils with

Special Educational Needs and all vulnerable pupils should be set out in the Behaviour Policy and made known to staff.

- Parents/carers should be encouraged and helped to support their children's education, just as the pupils should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time at school, in the local community and in preparation for their life after school. The responsibilities of children, parents/carers and all school staff with respect to children's behaviour must be outlined in the Home School Agreement which children, parents/carers and Headteacher must be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.
- The School Rules should clearly be stated in the Behaviour Policy. These should set out expected standards of behaviour, should be displayed in all classrooms and other, relevant parts of the school and shared with and explained to all children. The governors expect the rules to be consistently applied by all staff and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.
- Governors would like to see a wide range of rewards, consistently and fairly applied in such a way as to encourage and reward good behaviour in the classroom and elsewhere. These should be made clear in the Behaviour Policy and regularly monitored for their consistent, fair application and effectiveness.
- Sanctions for unacceptable behaviour/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and children and consistently applied. The full range of sanctions should be clearly described in the Behaviour Policy so that the children, staff and parents can understand how and when they are applied. The Governors strongly feel that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must be used only as a very last resort. 'Unofficial exclusions are illegal and so must be avoided.
- The Headteacher may inform the police, as appropriate, if there is evidence of a criminal act or if he fears that one may take place. Sanctions should be monitored for the proper use and effective impact.
- The Behaviour Policy should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against pupils who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff. Governors expect the Headteacher to draw on the advice in Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and other staff guidance documents when setting out the pastoral support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers. Staff so accused should not be automatically suspended pending an investigation.
- The Governors expect the Headteacher to include the following in the Behaviour Policy;
 - The power to use reasonable force or make other physical contact; the situations in which reasonable force may be used (including removing disruptive pupils from classrooms or preventing them from leaving) should be stated. A definition of reasonable force should be included, which would also explain how and when children may be restrained. Governors would

expect all staff to be well briefed and trained to deal with children with issues as they become known.

- The power to discipline outside the school gates; disciplining beyond the school gates covers the school's response to all non-criminal bad behaviour and bullying that occurs anywhere off the school premises.
- The governors must be satisfied, in all situations arising, that the measures proposed by the Headteacher are lawful and that staff and children know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.