

Milford Primary School

Governors' Statement of General Behaviour Principles

Under Section 88(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA), governing bodies must ensure that policies designed to promote good behaviour and discipline on the part of its pupils are pursued at the school.

Section 88(2) of the EIA requires the governing body to make a written statement of general principles to guide the headteacher in determining measures to promote good behaviour and discipline amongst pupils.

In deciding on these behaviour principles the governors have consulted all members of the school community including parents, pupils, staff and the headteacher and have taken into account guidance in the Department for Education (DfE) publication '*Behaviour and discipline in schools: guidance for governing bodies*'. The governing body has also considered their duty under section 175 of the Education Act 2002.

Principles

Governors strongly believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school. Excellent standards of behaviour allow staff to teach and promote good learning without interruption, in turn allowing pupils to make the best possible progress in all aspects of school life. High expectations of behaviour during the school day also encourages pupils to become good citizens and acceptable members of society of the wider community

It is the belief of our school that every member of our school community should feel safe, secure, respected and valued. The school's Behaviour Management Policy should promote mutual respect between staff and pupils; pupils and their peers; staff and their colleagues; and all members of the school community and visitors to the school.

The governors expect that school rules are applied consistently across the whole school. These rules should be clear and explained to all children and staff. Staff should be confident in applying the rules appropriately and in giving rewards for positive behaviour and applying sanctions for inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour.

Governors expect the behaviour management policy to include a wide range of rewards to encourage good behaviour within school. The system of rewards should be clear to those with authority to apply them and should be used consistently and fairly across the whole school.

The policy must also include a system of sanctions for unacceptable behaviour which is known and understood by all those with authority to implement them. The range of sanctions must be clearly explained in the policy so all members of the school community are aware of them and understand how and when they will be applied. The policy should also set out clearly the circumstances in which

exclusions, both fixed-term and permanent, will be used as a sanction. Governors believe that exclusion should only be used as a last resort.

Both the reward and sanctions systems should be regularly monitored to ensure consistency, fairness and effectiveness.

The policy must emphasise that bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, gender reassignment, race, ability, disability, sexual orientation or background is totally unacceptable and a zero tolerance attitude will be taken to such incidents.

The school has a legal duty to comply with the Equality Act 2010 and will seek to safeguard vulnerable pupils, particularly those with special educational needs. The Behaviour Management Policy will highlight where reasonable adjustments in the policy's application may need to be made.

Governors support the use of reasonable force within school to control inappropriate behaviour. The policy will define 'reasonable force' and instances in which it may be used. When drawing up the Behaviour Management Policy the headteacher will follow guidance in the DfE publication '*Use of Reasonable Force: Advice for headteachers, staff and governing bodies*' (2013). The policy will highlight the fact that it is unlawful to use force as a punishment.

Governors believe the school should have the right to search pupils for prohibited items or those banned by the school. The policy will detail what these items are and the circumstances in which searches will take place. The headteacher will take into account guidance found in the DfE publication '*Searching, screening and confiscation: Advice for headteachers, school staff and governing bodies*.'(2014).

The governors expect the behaviour management policy to set out the school's response to:

any bad behaviour when the child is:

- Taking part in any school organised or school-related activity, or
- Travelling to and from school, or
- Wearing school uniform, or
- In some other way identifiable as a pupil at the school

Or, misbehaviour at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, that:

- Could have repercussions on the orderly running of the school, or
- Poses a threat to another pupil or member of the public, or
- Could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

The policy should make clear that the headteacher may inform the police in all of these circumstances of the actions taken against a pupil and must inform the police if there is evidence of a criminal act or a serious threat is posed to a member of the public.

The headteacher should have the authority to consult appropriate agencies should all sanctions have been exhausted and a pupil's unacceptable behaviour persists. Staff should consider whether the

behaviour may be linked to child suffering, or being likely to suffer, significant harm. In such instances the school staff should follow the safeguarding policy.

Throughout the policy it will be clearly stated who has the authority (headteacher, staff, volunteers, parents etc.) to implement the policy.

When drawing up the Behaviour Management Policy the headteacher will be asked to take into account the guidance in the DfE publication *'Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: a guide for headteachers and school staff (2012)*.

The Behaviour Management Policy must be read in conjunction with;

The Anti-bullying Policy

The Use of Reasonable Force Policy

The Safeguarding Policy

The Equal Opportunities Policy

This Statement of Principles will be reviewed annually in conjunction with the Behaviour Management Policy.