

Behaviour Policy

The basis of our behaviour policy is our Mission Statement, which encourages every child and adult to be "cherished, valued.....and encouraged to live as Jesus taught."

Christ is at the heart of our work and is at the heart of this policy.

The Purpose:

- to implement the discipline objective statement.
- to develop a whole school approach in ensuring consistency.
- to create a positive ethos that ensures a happy, relaxed and pleasant atmosphere in which children are encouraged to do their best and stimulated to achieve their potential.
- to establish ground rules and so identify boundaries of acceptable behaviour.
- to encourage self-discipline and independence and an acceptance of responsibility for own actions.
- To recognise the importance of home/school partnership in all matters of discipline.

Role of all staff:

The attitude of all staff is of vital importance, as it is they who set the example and create the atmosphere in which good relationships are built.

Therefore, all staff should;

- consider themselves responsible for all children at all times and not just their own class.
- create a varied, purposeful and appropriate curriculum taught through inspiring and motivating teaching methods.
- establish rules and protocol for inside and outside the classroom.
- ensure consistency and effective classroom management.
- appropriately reward good behaviour.
- in reflecting our Mission Statement, help to prepare the children in citizenship.
- reason with children to ensure understanding of why some behaviour is not acceptable and that they understand the consequences of inappropriate actions.
- if bad behaviour occurs look for reasons, realising that this often stems from personal problems so that the child realises the member of staff is interested in them as an individual, encouraging a sense of value and worth.
- encourage the support, understanding and co-operation of parents when there is concern over a child's behaviour.
- have an expectation that all parents will support the policies of the school.
- To support the children in knowledge and understanding the Rights and Responsibilities of the child.

Through all of this, it is vital that the staff ensure that children understand that it is their behaviour that is unacceptable and not them as a person.

Role of the Child:

It is vital that we have clear, identifiable boundaries within which all should work if we are to successfully implement the behaviour policy. The following, drawn up by the children, are the 'Golden Rules' which they should be encouraged to follow at all times:

Children will keep their Golden Rules:

- be welcoming and respectful to everyone
 - keep our school looking neat, tidy and cared for
 - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
 - listen
 - be kind and helpful; don't hurt anyone in anything you say or do
 - be sensible
 - always do your best and keep a positive attitude
 - be honest
- (These are now related to the BEE-attitudes)

Positive actions:

At St. Mary's we place great emphasis on the positive approach of praise and encouragement and the school house point system and weekly courtesy award has an important role to play in this.

The following is a list of positive actions we use in school and they are in no particular order:

- acknowledgement of good behaviour. This may be done visually or verbally, on a one to one basis or with an audience. It may also culminate in our weekly "Praise Assembly", when children from each class are able to share, with help from their teacher if necessary, good work or behaviour that they are particularly proud of that week.
- respect focus each week.
- individual class reward systems.
- Positive feedback.
- verbal / written comments to parents/carers.
- Bee-attitude reward from headteacher.
- playtime Bee- attitude well done stickers.
- reward of house merits.
- variety of recognition rewards given out for good work, behaviour, attitude, etc. leading to gaining a merit.
- award of responsibility, e.g. designated 'Manager' roles.
- visit to senior member of staff, e.g. Head or Assistant Head for commendation.
- award of Courtesy Badge.
- citizenship award.
- request for 'treat' to be given at home.
- themed weeks in school to support good behaviour.

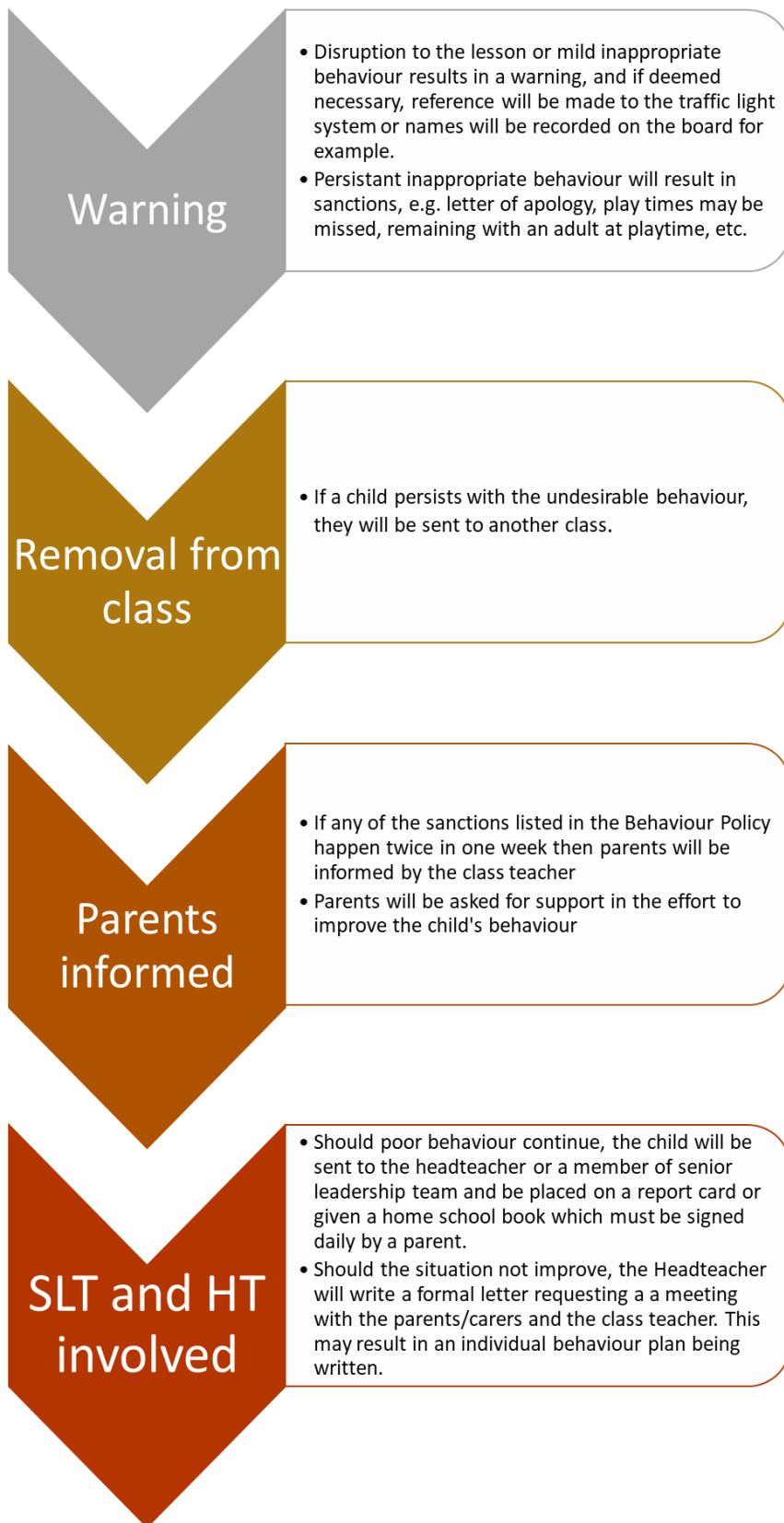
The merit system is designed to ensure whole school cohesion. Each child is placed into one of four houses on entry into school and the system is implemented as follows; Merits are seen as something highly sought after and valued when achieved.

- Merits are given and recorded in class by a method that is deemed age appropriate.
- Children may receive a letter of congratulations to their parents/carers and their name in the newsletter as a recognition of hard work, achievement or consideration of others.
- End of week prizes may be given 'in class' at the teachers discretion.
- Termly totals are taken for each house and a prize is awarded at the end of the school year to the winning house. It is the responsibility of an adult in class to keep these cumulative totals.
- Year six children will be responsible for collating a weekly cumulative total for each house and presentation of the 'House Trophy' to the House Captain will be made each year.
- Each house will be led and supported by a House Captain.

Any of the above positive actions may be given for kindness, courtesy, co-operation, honesty and good work in fact any behaviour or attitude that reflects the way of Christ as outlined in our Mission Statement.

Range of Sanctions:

There are occasions when staff need to implement some form of sanction. The level of the sanction will be appropriate to the misdemeanour. The following list gives an indication of a hierarchy of sanctions which will be implemented, **but any one may be used as the starting point if deemed appropriate.**



PE

Due to the physical nature of this subject and the fact that this lesson takes place in the hall or outside, separate principles apply:

- Verbal comments will be made as an unofficial warning.
- If the undesirable behaviour continues, the child will be sent to their designated buddy class accompanied by another pupil

In exceptional circumstances, the headteacher may deem it necessary to exclude a child on a fixed term basis as the initial sanction or on a permanent basis, if the situation warrants such action, without consultation with the Governing Body.

It will always be the aim of any member of staff to identify specific individuals that have behaved inappropriately and 'whole class' sanctions will not be administered unless there is no other alternative.

Mid-days Assistants keep a record of inappropriate behaviour on the playground and these records are monitored by the headteacher.

Inappropriate incidents of behaviour are officially recorded on CPOMS, an online behaviour reporting system. These are carefully monitored by the headteacher for repetition.

Force and Restraint

Force may be used either to control or restrain. It may range from guiding a child to safety to preventing violence or injury to self or others. The DFE states the power to use reasonable force applies to any member of staff in the school or to an adult that the head teacher has deemed suitable to put temporarily in charge of children. Reasonable force can be used to prevent children from hurting themselves or others, damaging property or from causing disorder.

Examples of this are:

- removing a child from a classroom where they have continually refused to follow a verbal request to do so.
- preventing a pupil from behaving in a way that disrupts a school event or a school trip or visit.
- preventing a pupil leaving a classroom, where allowing the pupil to leave would risk their own safety or lead to behaviour that disrupts the learning of others.
- Preventing a pupil from attacking a member of staff or another pupil.

School strongly recognises that force will **never** be used as a punishment and it will be avoided wherever possible. School will always inform parents if there has been a need to use reasonable force.

Physical Contact is sometimes deemed to be proper and necessary with children. Examples of this are:

- holding a child's hand as you lead them to their destination.
- escorting, in a supportive fashion, a child who is reluctant to come into school, e.g. Reception child
- comforting a distressed pupil.
- congratulating or praising a pupil.
- demonstrating exercises or techniques during PE.
- administering First Aid.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Harmful sexual behaviour by children and young people includes a range of behaviours in a variety of situations and can be defined as: –

"Sexual behaviours expressed by children and young people under the age of 18 years old that are developmentally inappropriate, may be harmful towards self or others, or be abusive towards another child, young person or adult" (Hackett 2014).

Children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour should be identified at the earliest opportunity and their behaviour addressed in order to both meet their needs and protect other children.

It is important to remember that children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours may themselves have considerable unmet needs. For some the manifestation of harmful sexual behaviours may be a direct result of suffering abuse themselves.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School will follow the Cheshire East Protocol to support families and children when sexual behaviours become problematic and harmful and provide professionals with guidance about how to identify such behaviours and how to respond to them.

Screening and Searching

In the rare event that school feels it is necessary to screen or search a child, the school will act within the DFE guidelines without permission being sought from the parents. Parents however will always be informed after the event.

Conclusion

To have Jesus at the centre of all that we do is crucial to the success of this policy. Through the development of a spirit of forgiveness and recognition that through God, each one of us is a 'new creation every morning', we hope that every member of St Mary's School community will establish a code of conduct for life that reflects the Gospel message of Christ.

Reviewed June 2023