

Positive Behaviour Policy

Aims and objectives

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.

This reflects our school vision which states:

'Ballyholme Primary School is a caring school where everyone is welcomed, valued and respected. It is a happy school, where all, individually and together, play a part in developing pride in self, in school, in others and work towards developing their potential in becoming responsible future citizens.'

As a Rights Respecting School our behaviour policy is based on Article 28 which states that:

'Discipline in schools must respect children's human dignity.'

Code of Conduct/ Classroom Charters

The school expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others. The school has a Code of Conduct (Appendix 1), but our behaviour policy is not primarily concerned with rule enforcement. It is a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn.

Every class creates their own Class Charter each year which is based on children's rights. The charters outline the rights of the child but also the behaviours/actions needed to ensure that they are upheld. Every member of the class is involved in deciding what the charter should say and signs to agree that they will follow it. Charters are also signed by teachers and classroom assistants.

Positive Behaviour

The school rewards good behaviour, as it believes that this will develop an ethos of kindness and cooperation. We praise and reward children for good behaviour in a variety of ways:

- Positive comment from a member of staff
- Sticker/ Stamp on book/ Note home
- Whole class 'Cubes in the Jar' – children can earn a cube for the jar for good behaviour. When the jar is full the whole class receives the agreed reward.
- Sent to another teacher/ Year Head/ Principal for praise
- P5-7 classes operate a merit system where children earn merits for good work, effort or behaviour
- Pupil of the day award for children in P2
- Weekly class awards for P3/P4 for lining up quietly in the playground
- Certificate of achievement awards for children in P4-P7

Sanctions

The school employs a number of sanctions to ensure a safe and positive learning environment. We employ each sanction appropriately to each individual situation.

Examples of sanctions used include:

- Rule reminder
- Speaking to the child- warning
- Speaking to child again – consequence applied e.g. thumbs down/ strike/ storm cloud
- For more serious incidents 2 or 3 strikes may be awarded immediately
- Time out- including use of Sin Bin at lunchtimes
- P4 children may be sent to a P3 classroom at lunchtime for 3 strikes in 1 day
- P5-7 children will be asked to copy out their Classroom Charter at home and get it signed by their parents if they receive 2 strikes in 1 day
- P5-7 children will receive a Wednesday detention if they receive 3 strikes in 1 day
- Any child in detention three or more times in a term will have a note sent home to parents from the year head
- Report Card (used as a means of daily communication between home and school)
- Sent to Head of Year
- Sent to Head of Key Stage
- Sent to Principal
- Suspension
- Expulsion

A pupil incident record (Appendix 2) is kept by each teacher for either repeated misbehaviour or serious incidents. A note should be made on the pupil incident record when a child has received 2 or more strikes in one day. The class teacher will contact a parent if there are concerns about the behaviour or welfare of a child.

The Role of 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 home and school and we will inform parents if we have a concern about their child's welfare or behaviour. If the school has to use sanctions we expect the parents to support the actions of the school. It is vitally important that school and home work in partnership to promote positive behaviour.

Complaints Procedure

If there is a concern about a child or the way a child has been treated, parents should contact the class teacher in the first instance.

If the concern remains parents or staff may refer the matter to:

1. the Head of Year
2. the Head of Key Stage or Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

In the event that these discussions cannot resolve the problem then an appointment may be made with the Principal.

At all stages the pupil incident record should be completed.

Monitoring and Review

Each year head will monitor the pupil incident records on a half-termly basis. Any concerns will be shared with the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator and the Principal, who will decide on the plan of action to be taken.

Year Heads will report back to the Senior Leadership Team annually as to the effectiveness of this policy and with any recommendations for improvement. Following this meeting the policy will be amended if necessary.

Links with other policies

This policy forms part of the pastoral care structure in Ballyholme Primary School and should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Child Protection
- Anti-Bullying
- Health and Safety
- Acceptable use of the Internet
- Administration of medicines
- Educational Visits
- Pastoral Care
- Special Needs and Inclusion