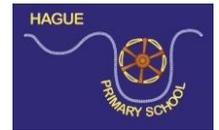




GOVERNORS' STATEMENT OF GENERAL BEHAVIOUR PRINCIPLES

For Stewart Headam & Hague Schools' Federation



Curriculum & Standards Committee 	22 nd September 2022
Full Governing Body 	3 November 2022
Next Review	Reviewed Annually – Autumn Term 2023
Curriculum Committee agreed proposal for SHH Federation to adopt this statement to inform the associated Behaviour, Anti-Bullying and Conduct Policies. No Changes	

1. This Statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act, 2006, and DfE guidance (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Advice for Headteachers and School Staff 2014).

2. The purpose of the Governors' Statement is to provide guidance for the Headteacher in drawing up the school's Behaviour Policy so that it reflects measures which aim to:

- Promote good conduct, self-discipline and rights respecting behaviour
- Prevent all forms of bullying or discrimination
- Ensure pupils complete assigned work to a good standard.
- Recognise and reward positive conduct
- Ensure staff are consistent in their behaviour expectations and sanctions.

The policy 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' and Leadership Team support when following this guidance.

3. This is a statement of principles, not practice: it is the responsibility of the Headteacher to draw up the school's behaviour policy and take account of these principles. The Headteacher is also asked to take account of the guidance in DfE publication Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: Advice for headteachers and school staff 2014 and other associated resources linked to the document.

4. The Behaviour Policy must be publicised at least once per year, in writing, to staff, parents/carers and pupils and available on the school website at all times.

5. Principles

The Governors of Hague School strongly believe that high standards of behaviour are essential so that

- a) all pupils are able to make the best possible progress and choices in all aspects of their school life and work
- b) all staff are able to teach and promote good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
- c) all pupils and staff have the right to feel safe at all times in school. There should be mutual respect between staff, pupils and parents.
- d) 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.

6. The Equality Act, 2010.

Hague and Stewart Headlam are rights respecting, inclusive schools. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort (as laid down in the Equality Act, 2010). The school must have a clear and comprehensive Anti-bullying Policy that is known and understood by all, consistently applied and monitored for its effectiveness. Measures to protect pupils from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, religion or belief, disability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.

7. The Behaviour Policy should reflect the school's legal duties in respect of safeguarding pupils with Special Educational Needs and all vulnerable pupils and made known to all staff.

8. Home School Agreements

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 collectively agreed responsibilities of parents/carers and school staff with respect to students' behaviour should be outlined in the 'Home School Agreement'. The document facilitates shared understanding of school expectations and ethos.

9. Unacceptable or Threatening Behaviour Towards Staff or Pupils by Parents or Carers.

The Governors expect pupils and parents to cooperate to maintain an orderly climate for learning. The Governors wish to emphasise that violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by pupils, parents or adult visitors towards the school's staff will not be tolerated. If an adult visitor/ parent/ carer does not conduct himself/herself properly, the school will ask them to leave the premises in the first instance then review and consider steps to ban them from the school premises. If the parent/ carer continues to cause concern the police will be contacted.

10. School Rules. Rights Respecting Charters for the School and Class should make clear how pupils and adults respect the UNCRC Articles which the School's Behaviour Policy is based on. 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 pupils. The Governors expect the Golden Rules to be embedded in how we all respect the charter. Charters should be consistently applied by all staff and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.

11. Reward, Recognition and Sanctions

Governors would like to see a wide range of age appropriate rewards consistently and fairly applied to encourage and reward good behaviour, positive attitudes in the classroom and elsewhere. These should be made clear in the Behaviour Policy and regularly monitored for their consistent, fair application and effectiveness.

12. Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and pupils and consistently applied. They should be proportionate and relevant to the behaviour. The range of sanctions should be made clear.

The Governors recognise 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 e.g. if illegal drugs are discovered during a search; cyber-bullying; criminal harassment. Sanctions should be monitored for their proper use and effective impact.

13. Disciplinary Action

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 document 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.

14. The Governors expect the Headteacher to include the following in some detail in the Behaviour Policy:

- a) The power to use reasonable force or make other physical contact: the situations in which reasonable force may be used (including removing disruptive students from classrooms, or preventing them from leaving) should be stated. A definition of 'reasonable force' should be included, which should also explain how and when students may be restrained. Governors would expect all staff to be trained in the use of reasonable force and restraint.
- b) Screening and searching students: the reasons for searching students should be made explicit, together with details of who may search, where such searching should take place, what will happen to any banned items found as a result of such a search and what sanctions will be applied. It should also be made clear that parents do not

have to be informed before a search. Governors would expect authorised staff to be appropriately trained in how to carry out a search.

- c) 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.

15. The Governors must be satisfied, in all situations arising, that the measures proposed by the head teacher are lawful and that staff and pupils know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.

Review

This Statement of Principles will be reviewed every 2 years or as necessary.

The school Behaviour Management and Anti-Bullying Policy will be reviewed and shared with the Governors annually.