




# Behaviour and Discipline Policy

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**September 2025**

<b>Signed (Chair of Trustees):</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>September 2025</b>
<b>Date of Review:</b>	<b>September 2026</b>

*Arbor Academy Trust reviews this policy annually. The Trustees may, however, review the policy earlier than this, if the Government introduces new regulations, or if the Trust receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved. This document is also available in other formats e.g. e-mail and enlarged print version, on request to the School Offices and is displayed on the schools' websites.*

## 1 Aims and Expectations

- 1.1 We believe that we promote good behaviour by creating a happy and caring school environment where everyone within Arbor Academy Trust feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community of schools whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The Trust's behaviour policy is therefore designed to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.
- 1.2 The Trust has a number of school rules but the Behaviour Policy is not a system to enforce these. The primary aim of this policy is a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. This policy supports the school community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way.
- 1.3 The Trust expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others. We treat all children fairly and apply this behaviour policy in a consistent way.
- 1.4 The Trust rewards good behaviour as it believes that this will develop an ethos of kindness and co-operation. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour.
- 1.5 Outline the expectations and consequences of behaviour
- 1.6 Provide a consistent approach to behaviour management that is applied equally to all pupils
- 1.7 Define what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour, including bullying and discrimination

## 2. Legislation, statutory requirements and statutory guidance

This policy is based on legislation and advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on:

- [Behaviour in schools: advice for headteachers and school staff 2024](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools 2022](#)
- [The Equality Act 2010](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023](#)
- [Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement 2023](#)
- [Use of reasonable force in schools](#)
- [Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school](#)
- [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#)

In addition, this policy is based on:

- Schedule 1 of the [Education \(Independent School Standards\) Regulations 2014](#); paragraph 7 outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, paragraph 9 requires the school to have a written behaviour policy, and paragraph 10 requires the school to have an anti-bullying strategy
- [DfE guidance](#) explaining that academies should publish their behaviour policy and anti-bullying strategy

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

## 3. Definitions

**Misbehaviour** is defined as:

- Disruption in lessons, in corridors and stairwells, and at break and lunchtimes
- Non-completion of classwork due to poor behaviour
- Poor attitude

**Serious misbehaviour** is defined as:

- Repeated breaches of the school rules
- Any form of bullying
- Sexual violence
- Sexual harassment, meaning unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, such as:
  - Sexual comments
  - Sexual jokes or taunting
  - Physical behaviour such as interfering with clothes
  - Online sexual harassment, such as unwanted sexual comments and messages (including on social media), sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos, or sharing of unwanted explicit content
- Vandalism

- Theft
- Fighting
- Smoking or vaping
- Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory behaviour
- Possession of any prohibited/banned items. These are:
  - Knives or weapons
  - Alcohol
  - Illegal drugs
  - Stolen items
  - Tobacco and cigarette papers
  - E-cigarettes or vapes
  - Fireworks
  - Pornographic images
  - Any article a staff member reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil)
  - Mobile phones

#### 4. Bullying

**Bullying** is defined as the repetitive, intentional harming of 1 person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying is, therefore:

- Deliberately hurtful
- Repeated, often over a period of time
- Difficult to defend against

Bullying can include:

TYPE OF BULLYING	DEFINITION
Emotional	Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
Physical	Hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another's belongings, any use of violence
Prejudice-based and discriminatory, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Racial</li> <li>• Faith-based</li> <li>• Gendered (sexist)</li> <li>• Homophobic/biphobic</li> <li>• Transphobic</li> <li>• Disability-based</li> </ul>	Taunts, gestures, graffiti or physical abuse focused on a particular characteristic (e.g. gender, race, sexuality)
Sexual	Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, comments about sexual reputation or performance, or inappropriate touching
Direct or indirect verbal	Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
Cyber-bullying	Bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps, gaming sites, devices or via images, audio, video, or written content generated by artificial intelligence (AI)

Details of our school's approach to preventing and addressing bullying are set out in our anti-bullying policy.

## **5. Roles and responsibilities**

### **5.1 The governing board**

The Local Governing Board has the responsibility of monitoring these general guidelines on standards of discipline and behaviour and of reviewing their effectiveness. The Local Governing Board will support the Headteacher/ Head of School in carrying out these guidelines. The Headteacher/ Head of School has the day-to-day authority to implement the school behaviour and discipline policy, but the Local Governing Board may give advice to the Headteacher/ Head of School about particular disciplinary issues. The Headteacher/ Head of School must take this into account when making decisions about matters of behaviour. The Local Governing Board is responsible for monitoring this behaviour policy's effectiveness and holding the Headteacher/ Head of School to account for its implementation.

### **5.2 The Role of the Headteacher/ Head of School and Senior Leadership Team (SLT)**

The Headteacher/ Head of School is responsible for:

- Reviewing and approving this behaviour policy
- Ensuring that the school environment encourages positive behaviour
- Ensuring that staff deal effectively with poor behaviour
- Monitoring how staff implement this policy to ensure rewards and sanctions are applied consistently to all groups of pupils
- Ensuring that all staff understand the behavioural expectations and the importance of maintaining them
- Providing new staff with a clear induction into the school's behavioural culture to ensure they understand its rules and routines, and how best to support all pupils to participate fully
- Offering appropriate training in behaviour management, and the impact of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and mental health needs on behaviour, to any staff who require it, so they can fulfil their duties set out in this policy
- Ensuring this policy works alongside the safeguarding policy to offer pupils both sanctions and support when necessary
- Ensuring that the data from the behaviour log is reviewed regularly, to make sure that no groups of pupils are being disproportionately impacted by this policy (see section 13.1)
- To report to Governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy. It is also the responsibility of the Headteacher/ Head of School to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all children in the school.
- The Senior Leadership support the staff by implementing the policy by setting the standards of behaviour and by supporting staff in the implementation of the policy.
- The Senior Leadership keep records of all reported serious incidents of misbehaviour.

### **5.3 The Role of Staff**

Staff are responsible for:

- Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment (Teacher standards 7)
- Creating a calm and safe environment for pupils
- Establishing and maintaining clear boundaries of acceptable pupil behaviour
- Implementing the behaviour policy consistently
- Communicating the school's expectations, routines, values and standards through teaching behaviour and in every interaction with pupils
- Modelling expected behaviour and positive relationships
- Providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular pupils
- The class teacher, with the support from the SENCO, liaises with external agencies as necessary to support and guide the progress of each child. The class teacher may, for example, discuss the needs of a child with the education social worker or LA behaviour support service.
- Considering the impact of their own behaviour on the school culture and how they can uphold school rules and expectations
- Treats all children in their class with respect and understanding
- Recording behaviour incidents promptly

- In the first instance, the class teacher deals with incidents in the normal manner. However, if misbehaviour continues, the class teacher seeks help and advice from the Phase Leaders, Deputy Headteachers and Headteacher/ Head of School.
- The class teacher reports to parents about the progress of each child in their class, in line with the whole school policy. The class teacher may also contact a parent if there are concerns about the behaviour or welfare of a child.
- Communicate, feedback and update parents regarding any behaviour concerns within an appropriate timescale
- Challenging pupils to meet the school's expectations
- The senior leadership team (SLT) will support staff in responding to behaviour incidents.
- The class teachers in our Trust schools have high expectations of the children in terms of behaviour, and they strive to ensure that all children work to the best of their ability.

#### **5.4 Parents and carers**

Parents and carers, where possible, should:

- Get to know the school's behaviour policy and reinforce it at home where appropriate
- Support their child in adhering to the school's behaviour policy
- Inform the school of any changes in circumstances that may affect their child's behaviour
- Discuss any behavioural concerns with the class teacher promptly
- Take part in any pastoral work following misbehaviour (for example, attending reviews of specific behaviour interventions)
- Raise any concerns about the management of behaviour with the school directly, while continuing to work in partnership with the school
- Take part in the life of the school and its culture
- To support their child's learning and to co-operate with the school. We try to build a supportive dialogue between the home and the school, and we inform parents immediately if we have concerns about their child's welfare or behaviour.
- If the school has to use reasonable sanctions to punish a child, parents should support the actions of the school. If parents have any concerns about the way that their child has been treated, they should initially contact the class teacher. If the concern remains, they should contact Headteacher/ Head of School or Deputy Head Teachers. If these discussions cannot resolve the problem the formal Complaints Policy and Procedure can be implemented.

The school will endeavour to build a positive relationship with parents and carers by keeping them informed about developments in their child's behaviour and the school's policy, and working in collaboration with them to tackle behavioural issues.

#### **5.5 Pupils**

Pupils will be made aware of the following during their induction into the behaviour culture:

- The expected standard of behaviour they should be displaying at school
- That they have a duty to follow the behaviour policy
- The school's key rules and routines
- The rewards they can earn for meeting the behaviour standards, and the consequences they will face if they don't meet the standards
- The pastoral support that is available to them to help them meet the behaviour standards

Pupils will be supported to meet the behaviour standards and will be provided with repeated induction sessions wherever appropriate.

Pupils will be supported to develop an understanding of the school's behaviour policy and wider culture.

Pupils will be asked to give feedback on their experience of the behaviour culture to support the evaluation, improvement and implementation of the behaviour policy.

Extra support and induction will be provided for pupils who are mid-phase arrivals.

#### **6. School behaviour curriculum**

- Behave in an orderly and self-controlled way
- Show respect to members of staff and each other

- In class, make it possible for all pupils to learn
- Move quietly around the school
- Treat the school buildings and school property with respect
- Accept sanctions when given
- Refrain from behaving in a way that brings the school into disrepute, including when outside school or online

## 6.1 Mobile phones

The school's approach to using mobile phones during the school day can be found in our ICT policy.

## 7. Responding to behaviour

### 7.1 Classroom management

Teaching and support staff are responsible for setting the tone and context for positive behaviour within the school. They will:

- Create and maintain a stimulating environment that encourages pupils to be engaged
- Display the behaviour chart and school rules
- Develop a positive relationship with pupils, which may include:
  - Greeting pupils in the morning
  - Establishing clear routines
  - Communicating expectations of behaviour in ways other than verbally
  - Highlighting and promoting good behaviour
  - Concluding the day positively and starting the next day afresh
  - Having a plan for dealing with low-level disruption
  - Using positive reinforcement

### 7.2 Safeguarding

The school recognises that changes in behaviour may be an indicator that a pupil is in need of help or protection. We will consider whether a pupil's misbehaviour may be linked to them suffering, or being likely to suffer, significant harm. Where this may be the case, we will follow our child protection and safeguarding policy, and consider whether pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate. Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policies for more information.

### 7.3 Responding to good behaviour

When a pupil's behaviour meets or goes above and beyond the expected behaviour standard, staff will recognise it with positive recognition and reward. This provides an opportunity for all staff to reinforce the school's culture and ethos. Positive reinforcements and rewards will be applied clearly and fairly to reinforce the routines, expectations and norms of the school's behaviour culture.

Positive behaviour will be rewarded with:

- Good behaviour is celebrated in weekly achievement assemblies.
- Good work is recognised by teachers, and pupils have the opportunity to show good work to Phase Leaders, Headteacher/ Head of School and Deputy Head Teachers.
- Gold Card for demonstrating **extraordinary** thirst for learning and support for others. Upholding the class and school rules, including the 5Cs consistently.

### 7.4 Responding to misbehaviour

When a pupil's behaviour falls below the standard that can reasonably be expected of them, staff will respond in order to restore a calm and safe learning environment, and to prevent recurrence of misbehaviour.

Staff will endeavour to create a predictable environment by always challenging behaviour that falls short of the standards, and by responding in a consistent, fair and proportionate manner, so pupils know with certainty that misbehaviour will always be addressed. De-escalation techniques can be used to help prevent further behaviour issues arising. All pupils will be treated equitably under the policy, with any factors that contributed to the

behavioural incident identified and taken into account. When giving behaviour sanctions, staff will also consider what support could be offered to a pupil to help them to meet behaviour standards in the future.

We use a 'Going for gold' system in our Reception, KS1 and KS2 classes.

Gold	To achieve gold, children must show <b>extraordinary</b> thirst for learning and support for others. Children uphold the class and school rules, including the 5Cs consistently. Gold card sent to parents
Silver	To achieve silver, children must show <b>consistently outstanding work and behaviour</b> while on bronze.
Bronze	To achieve bronze, children must have shown <b>consistently good work and behaviour</b> while on green. Only adults to move child's name.
Green	All children start the day on green. Consider the individual circumstances of children and the context of the class. First, second, third warning stay on green. When a warning is given the adult must speak with the child discretely to explain the reason for the warning and to find out why the child may be upset or defiant. Employ patience and try to defuse the situation. Do not escalate the situation.
Amber	Once on amber discretely remind the child outside the earshot of other children how they need to work towards green and how it can be achieved reminding them it is achievable. Further first, second, third warning stay on amber. When a warning is given the adult must speak with the child discretely to explain the reason for the warning and to find out why the child may be upset or defiant. Employ patience and try to defuse the situation. Do not escalate the situation. Remind the child of the consequences of going to red. At all times children have the opportunity to correct their behaviour and move back towards the rewards.
Red	Consequences of red <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removed to a neighbouring class for time reflect and complete work (10 mins)</li> <li>• At the end of the 10 mins the teacher will request 3 mins for reintegration which will be outside of lesson time</li> <li>• Red card sent home and parents contacted explaining the reasons for the move to red.</li> <li>• Parents may be invited to a meeting with the class teacher or phase leader to discuss next steps to improve behaviour and resolve any concerns</li> <li>• At all times children have the opportunity to correct their behaviour and move back towards the rewards.</li> </ul>

- If a child behaves in an unsafe manner, we ensure the safety of the rest of the class until the child calms down and are in a position to work sensibly again with others. The child will then meet with the phase leader to discuss possible solutions. If the behaviour persists the child will meet with the Headteacher/ Head of School or one of the Deputy Heads and parents will be informed. The safety of the children is paramount in all situations. If a child's behaviour endangers the safety of others, the class teacher stops the activity and prevents the child from endangering themselves or others.
- The class teacher discusses the school rules with each class. In this way, every child in the Trust knows the standard of behaviour that we expect in our schools. If there are incidents of anti-social behaviour, the class teacher discusses these with the whole class during 'circle time'.
- The Trust does not tolerate bullying of any kind. If we discover that an act of bullying or intimidation has taken place, we act immediately to stop any further occurrences of such behaviour. While it is very difficult to eradicate bullying, we do everything in our power to ensure that all children attend school free from fear.
- All members of staff are aware of the regulations regarding the use of force by teachers, as set out in DfE Circular 10/98, relating to section 550A of the Education Act 1996: *The Use of Force to Control or Restrain Pupils*. Teachers in our school do not hit, push or slap children. Staff only intervene physically to restrain children if a child is in danger of hurting him/herself or others. The actions that we take are in line with Government guidelines on the restraint of children.



**In Nursery we use the following:**

### ***Initial intervention approach***

- We use an initial problem-solving intervention for all situations in which a child or children are distressed on or in conflict. All staff use this intervention consistently. This approach involves an adult approaching the situation calmly, stopping any hurtful actions, acknowledging the feelings of those involved, gathering information, helping the children to reflect, regain control of the situation and resolve the situation themselves.

### ***Focused Intervention Approach***

The reasons for some types of behaviour are not always apparent, despite the knowledge and input from key staff and parents.

- Where we have considered all possible reasons, then a focused intervention approach should then be applied.
- This approach allows the key person, SENCo and school leaders to observe, reflect, and identify causes and functions of unwanted behaviour in the wider context of other known influences on the child.
- We follow the ABC method which uses key observations to identify a) an event or activity (antecedent) that occurred immediately before a particular behaviour, b) what behaviour was observed and recorded at the time of the incident, and c) what the consequences were following the behaviour.

Once analysed, the focused intervention should help determine the cause (e.g. ownership of a toy or fear of a situation) and function of the behaviour (to obtain the toy or avoid a situation) and suitable support will be applied.

- If, despite applying the initial intervention and focused intervention approaches, the behaviour continues to occur and/or is of significant concern, then the key person and SENCO will invite the parents to a meeting to discuss external referral and next steps for supporting the child in the setting.
- Advice provided by external agencies should be incorporated into the child's action plan and meetings held to review the child's progress.

## **7.5 Reasonable force**

Reasonable force covers a range of interventions that involve physical contact with pupils. All members of staff have a duty to use reasonable force, in the following circumstances, to prevent a pupil from:

- Causing disorder
- Hurting themselves or others
- Damaging property
- Committing an offence

Incidents of reasonable force must:

- Always be used as a last resort
- Be applied using the minimum amount of force and for the minimum amount of time possible
- Be used in a way that maintains the safety and dignity of all concerned
- Never be used as a form of punishment
- Be recorded and reported to parents/carers

When considering using reasonable force, staff should, in considering the risks, carefully recognise any specific vulnerabilities of the pupil, including SEND, mental health needs or medical conditions.

## **7.6 Searching and confiscation**

Searching and confiscation is conducted in line with the DfE's [latest guidance on searching, screening and confiscation](#).

### **Confiscation**

Any prohibited items (listed in section 3) found in a pupil's possession as a result of a search will be confiscated. These items will not be returned to the pupil. We will also confiscate any item that is harmful or detrimental to school discipline. These items will be returned to pupils after discussion with senior leaders and parents/carers, if appropriate.



## Searching a pupil

Searches will only be carried out by a member of staff who has been authorised to do so by the Headteacher/ Head of School, or by the Headteacher/ Head of School themselves. Subject to the exception below, the authorised member of staff carrying out the search will be of the same sex as the pupil, and there will be another member of staff present as a witness to the search. An authorised member of staff of a different sex to the pupil can carry out a search without another member of staff as a witness if:

- The authorised member of staff carrying out the search reasonably believes there is risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the search is not carried out as a matter of urgency; **and**
- In the time available, it is not reasonably practicable for the search to be carried out by a member of staff who is the same sex as the pupil; **or**
- It is not reasonably practicable for the search to be carried out in the presence of another member of staff

When an authorised member of staff conducts a search without a witness, they should immediately report this to another member of staff, and make sure a written record of the search is kept. If the authorised member of staff considers a search to be necessary, but not required urgently, they will seek the advice of the Headteacher/ Head of School, designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) or pastoral member of staff who may have more information about the pupil. During this time the pupil will be supervised and kept away from other pupils. A search can be carried out if the authorised member of staff has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil is in possession of a prohibited item or any item identified in the school rules for which a search can be made, or if the pupil has agreed. An appropriate location for the search will be found. Where possible, this will be away from other pupils. The search will only take place on the school premises or where the member of staff has lawful control or charge of the pupil, for example on a school trip.

Before carrying out a search the authorised member of staff will:

- Assess whether there is an urgent need for a search
- Assess whether not doing the search would put other pupils or staff at risk
- Consider whether the search would pose a safeguarding risk to the pupil
- Explain to the pupil why they are being searched
- Explain to the pupil what a search entails – e.g. “I will ask you to turn out your pockets and remove your scarf”
- Explain how and where the search will be carried out
- Give the pupil the opportunity to ask questions
- Seek the pupil’s co-operation

If the pupil refuses to agree to a search, the member of staff can give an appropriate behaviour sanction. If they still refuse to co-operate, the member of staff will contact the Headteacher/ Head of School to try to determine why the pupil is refusing to comply. The authorised member of staff will then decide whether to use reasonable force to search the pupil. This decision will be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration whether conducting the search will prevent the pupil harming themselves or others, damaging property or causing disorder. The authorised member of staff can use reasonable force to search for any prohibited items identified in section 3, but not to search for items that are only identified in the school rules. The authorised member of staff may use a metal detector to assist with the search. An authorised member of staff may search a pupil’s outer clothing, pockets, possessions, desk or locker.

‘Outer clothing’ includes:

- Any item of clothing that isn’t worn wholly next to the skin or immediately over underwear (e.g. a jumper or jacket being worn over a t-shirt)
- Hats, scarves, gloves, shoes or boots

## Searching pupils’ possessions

Possessions means any items that the pupil has or appears to have control of, including:

- Desks, Trays
- Bags

A pupil's possessions can be searched for any item if the pupil agrees to the search. If the pupil does not agree to the search, staff can still carry out a search for prohibited items (listed in section 3) and items identified in the school rules. An authorised member of staff can search a pupil's possessions when the pupil and another member of staff are present. If there is a serious risk of harm if the search is not conducted immediately, or it is not reasonably practicable to summon another member of staff, the search can be carried out by a single authorised member of staff.

### **Informing the designated safeguarding lead (DSL)**

The staff member who carried out the search should inform the DSL without delay:

- Of any incidents where the member of staff had reasonable grounds to suspect a pupil was in possession of a prohibited item as listed in section 3
- If they believe that a search has revealed a safeguarding risk

All searches for prohibited items (listed in section 3), including incidents where no items were found, will be recorded in the school's safeguarding system.

### **Informing parents/carers**

Parents/carers will always be informed of any search for a prohibited item (listed in section 3). A member of staff will tell the parents/carers as soon as is reasonably practicable:

- What happened
- What was found, if anything
- What has been confiscated, if anything
- What action the school has taken, including any sanctions that have been applied to their child

### **Support after a search**

Irrespective of whether any items are found as the result of any search, the school will consider whether the pupil may be suffering or likely to suffer harm and whether any specific support is needed (due to the reasons for the search, the search itself, or the outcome of the search). If this is the case, staff will follow the school's safeguarding policy and speak to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). The DSL will consider whether pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate.

### **Strip searches**

The authorised member of staff's power to search outlined above does not enable them to conduct a strip search (removing more than the outer clothing) and strip searches on school premises shall only be carried out by police officers in accordance with the [Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 \(PACE\) Code C](#). Before calling the police into school, staff will assess and balance the risk of a potential strip search on the pupil's mental and physical wellbeing and the risk of not recovering the suspected item. Staff will consider whether introducing the potential for a strip search through police involvement is absolutely necessary, and will always ensure that other appropriate, less invasive approaches have been exhausted first. Once the police are on school premises, the decision on whether to conduct a strip search lies solely with them. The school will advocate for the safety and wellbeing of the pupil(s) involved. Staff retain a duty of care to the pupil involved and should advocate for pupil wellbeing at all times.

### **Communication and record-keeping**

Where reasonably possible and unless there is an immediate risk of harm, before the strip search takes place, staff will contact at least 1 of the pupil's parents/carers to inform them that the police are going to strip search the pupil, and ask them whether they would like to come into school to act as the pupil's appropriate adult. If the school can't get in touch with the parents/carers, or they aren't able to come into school to act as the appropriate adult, a member of staff can act as the appropriate adult (see below for information about the role of the appropriate adult). The pupil's parents/carers will always be informed by a staff member once a strip search has taken place. The school will keep records of strip searches that have been conducted on school premises, and monitor them for any trends that emerge.

### **Who will be present**

For any strip search that involves exposure of intimate body parts, there will be at least 2 people present other than the pupil, except in urgent cases where there is risk of serious harm to the pupil or others.

One of these must be the appropriate adult, except if:

- The pupil explicitly states in the presence of an appropriate adult that they do not want an appropriate adult to be present during the search, **and**
- The appropriate adult agrees

If this is the case, a record will be made of the pupil's decision and it will be signed by the appropriate adult. No more than 2 people other than the pupil and appropriate adult will be present, except in the most exceptional circumstances.

The appropriate adult will:

- Act to safeguard the rights, entitlements and welfare of the pupil
- Not be a police officer or otherwise associated with the police
- Not be the headteacher
- Be of the same sex as the pupil, unless the pupil specifically requests an adult who is not of the same sex

Except for an appropriate adult of a different sex if the pupil specifically requests it, no one of a different sex will be permitted to be present and the search will not be carried out anywhere where the pupil could be seen by anyone else.

### **Care after a strip search**

After any strip search, the pupil will be given appropriate support, irrespective of whether any suspected item is found. The pupil will also be given the opportunity to express their views about the strip search and the events surrounding it. As with other searches, the school will consider whether the pupil may be suffering or likely to suffer harm and whether any further specific support is needed (due to the reasons for the search, the search itself, or the outcome of the search). Staff will follow the school's safeguarding policy and speak to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). The DSL will consider whether, in addition to pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate. Any pupil(s) who have been strip searched more than once and/or groups of pupils who may be more likely to be subject to strip searching will be given particular consideration, and staff will consider any preventative approaches that can be taken.

### **7.7 Off-site misbehaviour**

Sanctions may be applied where a pupil has misbehaved off-site when representing the school. This means misbehaviour when the pupil is:

- Taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity (e.g. school trips)
- Travelling to or from school
- Wearing school uniform
- In any other way identifiable as a pupil of our school

Sanctions may also be applied where a pupil has misbehaved off-site, at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, if the misbehaviour:

- Could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- Poses a threat to another pupil
- Could adversely affect the reputation of the school

Sanctions will only be given out on school premises or elsewhere when the pupil is under the lawful control of a staff member (e.g. on a school-organised trip).

### **7.8 Online misbehaviour**

The school can issue behaviour sanctions to pupils for online misbehaviour when:

- It poses a threat or causes harm to another pupil
- It could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- It adversely affects the reputation of the school
- The pupil is identifiable as a member of the school

Sanctions will only be given out on school premises or elsewhere when the pupil is under the lawful control of a staff member.

### **7.9 Suspected criminal behaviour**

If a pupil is suspected of criminal behaviour, the school will make an initial assessment of whether to report the incident to the police. When establishing the facts, the school will endeavour to preserve any relevant evidence to hand over to the police. If a decision is made to report the matter to the police, the Headteacher/ Head of School will make the report. The school will not interfere with any police action taken. However, the school may continue to follow its own investigation procedure and enforce sanctions, as long as it does not conflict with police action. If a report to the police is made, the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) will make a tandem report to children's social care, if appropriate.

### **7.10 Zero-tolerance approach to sexual harassment and sexual violence**

The school will ensure that all incidents of sexual harassment and/or violence are met with a suitable response, and never ignored. Pupils are encouraged to report anything that makes them uncomfortable, no matter how 'small' they feel it might be.

The school's response will be:

- Proportionate
- Considered
- Supportive
- Decided on a case-by-case basis

The school has procedures in place to respond to any allegations or concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing. These include clear processes for:

- Responding to a report
- Carrying out risk assessments, where appropriate, to help determine whether to:
  - Manage the incident internally
  - Refer to early help
  - Refer to children's social care
  - Report to the police

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information

### **7.11 Malicious allegations**

Where a pupil makes an allegation against a member of staff and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will consider whether to discipline the pupil in accordance with this policy. Where a pupil makes an allegation of sexual violence or sexual harassment against another pupil and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will consider whether to discipline the pupil in accordance with this policy. In all cases where an allegation is determined to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious, the school (in collaboration with the local authority designated officer (LADO), where relevant) will consider whether the pupil who made the allegation is in need of help, or the allegation may have been a cry for help. If so, a referral to children's social care may be appropriate. The school will also consider the pastoral needs of staff and pupils accused of misconduct. Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information on responding to allegations of abuse against staff or other pupils.

## **8. Serious sanctions**

### **8.1 Removal from classrooms**

In response to serious or persistent breaches of this policy, the school may remove the pupil from the classroom for a limited time. Pupils who have been removed will continue to receive education under the supervision of a member of staff. This education will be meaningful, but it may differ from the mainstream curriculum. Removal is a serious sanction and will only be used in response to serious misbehaviour. Staff will only remove pupils from the classroom once other behavioural strategies have been attempted, unless the behaviour is so extreme as to warrant immediate removal.

Removal can be used to:

- Restore order if the pupil is being unreasonably disruptive
- Maintain the safety of all pupils
- Allow the disruptive pupil to continue their learning in a managed environment
- Allow the disruptive pupil to regain calm in a safe space

Pupils who have been removed from the classroom are supervised by a senior leader of the school and will be removed for a maximum of 1 hour. Pupils will not be removed from classrooms for prolonged periods of time without the explicit agreement of the Headteacher/ Head of School. Pupils should be reintegrated into the classroom as soon as it is appropriate and safe to do so. The school will consider what support is needed to help a pupil successfully reintegrate into the classroom and meet the expected standards of behaviour. Parents/carers will be informed on the same day that their child is removed from the classroom. The school will consider an alternative approach to behaviour management for pupils who are frequently removed from class, such as:

- Use of teaching assistants
- Short-term behaviour report cards
- Long-term behaviour plans
- Pupil support units
- Multi-agency assessment

Staff will record all incidents of removal from the classroom in the behaviour log, along with details of the incident that led to the removal, and any protected characteristics of the pupil.

### **8.3 Suspension and permanent exclusion**

The school can use suspension and permanent exclusion in response to serious incidents or in response to persistent poor behaviour which has not improved following in-school sanctions and interventions. The decision to suspend or exclude will be made by the Headteacher/ Head of School and only as a last resort. A pupil may be excluded for one or more fixed periods, for up to 45 days in any one school year. The Headteacher/ Head of School may also exclude a pupil permanently. It is also possible for the Headteacher/ Head of School to convert a fixed-term exclusion into a permanent exclusion, if the circumstances warrant this. If the Headteacher/ Head of School excludes a pupil, they will inform the parents immediately, giving reasons for the exclusion. At the same time, the Headteacher/ Head of School makes it clear to the parents that they can, if they wish, appeal against the decision to the Local Governing Board. The school informs the parents how to make any such appeal. The Headteacher/ Head of School informs the Trust and the Local Governing Board about any permanent and/or fixed-term exclusions beyond five days in any one term. The Local Governing Board itself cannot either exclude a pupil or extend the exclusion period made by the Headteacher/ Head of School. The Local Governing Board has a discipline committee which is made up of between three and five members. This committee considers any exclusion appeals on behalf of the Local Governing Board. When an appeals panel meets to consider an exclusion, they consider the circumstances in which the pupil was excluded, any representation by parents and the school and whether the pupil should be reinstated. If the Governing Boards' appeals panel decides that a pupil should be reinstated, the Headteacher/ Head of School must comply with this ruling.

## **9. Responding to misbehaviour from pupils with SEND**

### **9.1 Recognising the impact of SEND on behaviour**

The school recognises that pupils' behaviour may be impacted by a special educational need or disability (SEND). When incidents of misbehaviour arise, we will consider them in relation to a pupil's SEND, although we recognise that not every incident of misbehaviour will be connected to their SEND. Decisions on whether a pupil's SEND had an impact on an incident of misbehaviour will be made on a case-by-case basis. When dealing with misbehaviour from pupils with SEND, especially where their SEND affects their behaviour, the school will take its legal duties into account when making decisions about enforcing the behaviour policy. The legal duties include:

- Taking reasonable steps to avoid any substantial disadvantage to a disabled pupil being caused by the school's policies or practices (Equality Act 2010)
- Using our best endeavours to meet the needs of pupils with SEND (Children and Families Act 2014)
- If a pupil has an education, health and care (EHC) plan, the provisions set out in that plan must be secured and the school must co-operate with the local authority and other bodies

As part of meeting these duties, the school will anticipate, as far as possible, all likely triggers of misbehaviour, and put in place support to prevent these from occurring. Any preventative measures will take into account the specific circumstances and requirements of the pupil concerned.

These may include:

- Short planned movement breaks for a pupil with SEND who finds it difficult to sit still for long
- Adjusting seating plans to allow a pupil with a visual or hearing impairment to sit in sight of the teacher.
- Adjusting uniform requirements for a pupil with sensory issues or who has severe eczema
- Training for staff in understanding conditions such as autism
- Use of sensory zones where pupils can regulate sensory overload.

## **9.2 Adapting sanctions for pupils with SEND**

When considering a behavioural sanction for a pupil with SEND, the school will consider whether:

- The pupil was unable to understand the rule or instruction
- The pupil was unable to act differently at the time as a result of their SEND
- The pupil was likely to behave aggressively due to their particular SEND

If the answer to any of these is 'yes', it may be unlawful for the school to sanction the pupil for the behaviour. The school will then assess whether it is appropriate to use a sanction and if so, whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made to the sanction.

## **9.3 Considering whether a pupil displaying challenging behaviour may have unidentified SEND**

The school's special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) may evaluate a pupil who exhibits challenging behaviour to determine whether they have any underlying needs that are not currently being met. Where necessary, support and advice will also be sought from specialist teachers, an educational psychologist, medical practitioners and/or others, to identify or support specific needs. When acute needs are identified in a pupil, we will liaise with external agencies and plan support programmes for that child. We will work with parents/carers to create the plan and review it on a regular basis.

## **9.4 Pupils with an education, health and care (EHC) plan**

The provisions set out in the EHC plan must be secured and the school will co-operate with the local authority and other bodies. If the school has a concern about the behaviour of a pupil with an EHC plan, it will make contact with the local authority to discuss the matter. If appropriate, the school may request an emergency review of the EHC plan.

## **10. Supporting pupils following a sanction**

Following a sanction, the school will consider strategies to help the pupil to understand how to improve their behaviour and meet the expectations of the school.

These may include:

- Reintegration meetings
- Daily contact with a senior leader
- A report with behavioural goals

## **11. Pupil transition**

### **11.1 Inducting incoming pupils**

The school will support incoming pupils to meet behaviour standards by offering an induction process to familiarise them with the behaviour policy and the wider school culture.

### **11.2 Preparing outgoing pupils for transition**

To ensure a smooth transition to the next year, pupils have class swap transition sessions with their new teacher(s). In addition, staff members hold transition meetings. To ensure behaviour is continually monitored and the right support is in place, information relating to pupil behaviour issues may be transferred to relevant staff at the start of the term or year.

## **12. Training**

As part of their induction process, our staff are provided with regular training on managing behaviour, including training on:

- The proper use of restraint
- The needs of the pupils at the school
- How SEND and mental health needs can impact behaviour

Behaviour management will also form part of continuing professional development.

## **13. Monitoring arrangements**

### **13.1 Monitoring and evaluating behaviour**

The school will collect data on the following:

- Behavioural incidents, including removal from the classroom
- Attendance, permanent exclusions and suspensions
- Use of pupil support units, off-site directions and managed moves
- Incidents of searching, screening and confiscation
- Perceptions and experiences of the school behaviour culture for staff, pupils, governors, trustees and other stakeholders (via anonymous surveys)

The data will be analysed termly by the senior leadership team.

The data will be analysed from a variety of perspectives including:

- At school level
- By age group
- At the level of individual members of staff
- By time of day/week/term
- By protected characteristic

The school will use the results of this analysis to make sure it is meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010. If any trends or disparities between groups of pupils are identified by this analysis, the school will review its policies to tackle them.

### **13.2 Monitoring this policy**

This behaviour policy will be reviewed by the Headteacher/ Head of School and Trust board at least annually, or more frequently, if needed, to address findings from the regular monitoring of the behaviour data (as per section 13.1). At each review, the policy will be approved by the Trust board.

## **14. Links with other policies**

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policies:

- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- Physical restraint policy
- ICT policy