



# Statement of behaviour principles

At TVS we recognise that some of our pupils may exhibit unacceptable behaviour because of their needs and disabilities and our policy is to support pupils to behave well through improved communication. We want our pupils to feel safe and we will employ de-escalation strategies as a preventative measure. We are a special school for children and young people with complex needs and disabilities and many of the points listed below would be extremely rare in being applied, however, in the interest of openness it is useful for everyone to be aware of the delegation of powers with regard to disciplinary matters.

Listed below are points of law with regard to staff powers to enforce discipline in schools.

## The Law - Discipline in schools – teachers' powers

### Key Points

- Teachers have statutory authority to discipline pupils whose behaviour is unacceptable, who break the school rules or who fail to follow a reasonable instruction (Section 90 and 91 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006).
- The power also applies to all paid staff (unless the headteacher says otherwise) with responsibility for pupils, such as teaching assistants.
- Teachers can discipline pupils at any time the pupil is in school or elsewhere under the charge of a teacher, including on school visits.
- Teachers can also discipline pupils in certain circumstances when a pupil's misbehaviour occurs outside of school.
- Teachers have a power to impose detention outside school hours. ☒ Teachers can confiscate pupils' property.

### Power to use reasonable force

Members of staff have the power to use reasonable force to prevent pupils committing an offence, injuring themselves or others, or damaging property, and to maintain good order and discipline in the classroom.

Head teachers and authorised school staff may also use such force as is reasonable given the circumstances when conducting a search without consent for knives or weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, stolen items, tobacco and cigarette papers, fireworks, pornographic images or articles that have been or could be used to commit an offence or cause harm.

Schools can also identify additional items in their school rules which may be searched for without consent. Force **cannot** be used to search for these items.

Separate advice is available in 'Use of Reasonable Force – advice for school leaders, staff and governing bodies'. *Also refer to school policy on restrictive physical intervention*

## Seclusion / isolation rooms - at TVS these are called 'Calm' rooms.

Schools can adopt a policy which allows disruptive pupils to be placed in an area away from other pupils for a limited period, in what are often referred to as seclusion or isolation rooms. At TVS we do not use seclusion and isolation rooms in the same way. We have two 'Calm' rooms, which are used under positive behaviour staff team supervision. These are used when a pupil wishes to have time to self-regulate and might for instance; be at risk of hurting themselves or another. It reduces the need for physical intervention and can be used to support a young person to regulate their behaviour themselves. TVS ensures the health and safety of pupils and any requirements in relation to safeguarding and pupil welfare.

Many of our pupils benefit from access to sensory and soft play rooms and these are different to the two 'Calm' rooms.

## Exclusions

It is the policy of The Village School not to exclude pupils for behaviours of concern rather to work closely with staff teams, external advisors and parents to provide a wraparound plan of support.

## Out of School Discipline

Due to the complex needs of pupils at The Village pupils are general bought in by parents or Brent transport. Once on Brent transport discipline becomes their duty of care. The same applies to parents.

*Reference: 'Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England' DFE 2012*

|                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Name of policy: | Statement of behaviour principles |
| Effective from: | September 2014                    |
| Next review:    | September 2017                    |

## Revision history

| Date      | Details    | Author    |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Sept 2016 | Reviewed   | Sue Jones |
| Sept 2015 | No changes | Sue Jones |



