

## GOVERNING BODY STATEMENT OF BEHAVIOUR PRINCIPLES



The Department for Education requires governing bodies of maintained schools to publish a statement of behaviour principles for their school. The Governing Body therefore has a duty to produce, and review, a written statement of general principles to guide the Headteacher in drawing up the behaviour policy. The document 'Behaviour and Discipline in Schools – Guidance for Governing Bodies' (DFE - July 2013) has been used as a reference in producing this Statement of Behaviour Principles.

The Governors at South Petherwin Primary School believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school and enable children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life. We are committed to promoting respect, fairness and social inclusion and these are the principles underlying the behaviour policy. The Governors expect any policy or actions to be in accordance with their responsibility under equality legislation. We believe children need a positive and supporting ethos to encourage them to thrive. Our behaviour principles are ones of creating positive relationships between all stakeholders in our school community.

### PRINCIPLES

#### **Right to feel safe at all times:**

All young people, staff and other members of the school community have the right to feel safe at all times whilst in school. We expect all members of the school community to behave responsibly and to treat each other with respect.

They should be aware that bullying or harassment of any description is unacceptable even if it occurs outside normal school hours.

#### **High standards of behaviour:**

The Governors strongly believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school. Good teaching and learning promote good behaviour and good behaviour promotes effective learning.

Children have the right to learn and to achieve their potential in all aspects of their lives and staff have the right to teach.

Governors also believe that the expectation of high standards of behaviour which are required during the school day can have a positive effect on the life of young people outside school in encouraging them to become successful citizens.

### **Inclusivity and Equality:**

We are an inclusive school, we believe in equality and in valuing the individual. We believe all members of the school community should be free from discrimination, harassment and bullying and will not tolerate them in any form. Measures to counteract bullying and discrimination will be consistently applied and monitored for their effectiveness.

The school's legal duties in order to comply with the Equality Act 2010 will be further reinforced through the Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policies and seek to safeguard vulnerable pupils. We recognise some pupils may need additional support to meet behaviour expectations.

### **School Rules:**

School rules will be detailed in our Behaviour Policy. We believe that children should be at the heart of the development of the school 'diamond' rules. We expect that all staff will support the rules and ensure consistent application and expectations across the school day. We expect the rules to be positive, memorable and on display around the school.

### **Rewards and Sanctions:**

Governors would like to see a wide range of rewards, consistently and fairly applied in such a way as to encourage and reward good behaviour around the school.

Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff. It is important that sanctions are monitored for their proper use, consistency and effective impact. Sanctions should be applied fairly and proportionally.

The Governors strongly feel that exclusions from school, particularly those that are permanent, must only be used as the very last resort. They may be used in response to a single extreme incident or after a long series of misdemeanours. Local Authority guidance will be followed and if exclusion becomes necessary and parents will be informed of their right of appeal.

### **The use of Reasonable Force:**

The Governors expect the Control and Restraint Policy to clearly outline the circumstances where staff may use reasonable force and other physical contact.

The Governors expect that 'authorised' staff should be appropriately trained in the use of reasonable force and restraint and that all staff are given advice on de-escalation and behaviour management techniques.

There is a statutory duty to record and report all significant incidents including all use of force. Where a risk has been identified an individual pupil 'Behaviour Plan' may specify a particular physical intervention technique for the pupil concerned.

### **The power to discipline for behaviour outside the school gates:**

The Governors expect the Behaviour Policy to set out the school's response to bad behaviour which occurs anywhere off the school premises and which is witnessed by a member of staff or reported to the school. The Policy should include the school's response to any bad behaviour when the child is taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity, wearing school uniform, or identifiable as a pupil at the school.

Even if the conditions above do not apply, the Policy must take account of misbehaviour at any time which:

- could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school,
- pose a threat to another pupil or member of the public or
- could adversely affect the reputation of the school.