



St Mary's C of E (VA) Primary School

Working together
in an inclusive Christian environment
to allow every pupil to shine brighter and brighter.

St Mary's is an inclusive school where we believe that all people are of equal value, irrespective of their ethnicity, culture, religion, gender, ability or sexual identity. We recognise and respect differences.

Governing Board Statement on Behaviour Principles

This policy is GDPR compliant.

Date of issue: February 2022

Last reviewed/adopted: February 2026 (FGB)

Next review date: Spring 2027

Signed: _____

Date: _____

GOVERNING BOARD STATEMENT OF BEHAVIOUR PRINCIPLES

St Mary's C of E (VA) Primary School

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Purpose of this Statement

This statement has been prepared in accordance with **Section 88 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006** and **DfE statutory guidance on Behaviour and Discipline in Schools**

It sets out the **general principles** that guide the Headteacher in determining the school's **Relationship and Positive Behaviour Policy**.

The Governing Board does **not** determine day-to-day behaviour management strategies, which remain the responsibility of the Headteacher and staff.

Our Core Beliefs

The Governing Board believes that:

- **All members of our school community are of equal value** and should be treated with dignity, respect and compassion, irrespective of background or need.
- **Positive behaviour is best developed through strong, trusting relationships**, clear expectations and consistent, caring responses.
- **Behaviour is a form of communication**. When a pupil displays detrimental behaviour, it is the behaviour that is unacceptable, **not the child**.
- **Unconditional positive regard** underpins all interactions within our school community.
- **Praise should be public and corrective conversations private**, supporting dignity and emotional safety.

These principles are rooted in the school's **therapeutic, relational approach** and Christian values of courage **love, forgiveness, kindness, respect and joy**.

Rights Within Our School Community

The Governing Board affirms that all pupils, staff and visitors have the right to:

- Feel **safe, secure and valued**
 - Be treated with **kindness, empathy and respect**
 - Be treated **fairly and consistently**
 - Be listened to at an appropriate time
 - Learn and work in an environment that supports **wellbeing and positive mental health**
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Promoting Positive Behaviour

The Governing Board expects that the school will:

- **Promote and encourage valued behaviour proactively**, rather than focusing solely on sanctions.
 - **Model positive behaviour** consistently through all adults.
 - Teach behaviour explicitly through **relationships, routines, values, worship and curriculum**.
 - Use **restorative and reflective approaches** to support learning from mistakes.
 - Ensure behaviour expectations are **clear, reasonable and consistently applied**.
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Safeguarding, Equality and Inclusion

The Governing Board recognises its duties under:

- **Section 175 of the Education Act 2002** (safeguarding and promoting welfare)
- **The Equality Act 2010**

Accordingly, the Board expects that:

- Behaviour policies and responses will **not discriminate** and will take account of individual needs, including SEND and trauma-related behaviours.
 - **Reasonable adjustments** will be made where appropriate to support pupils' success.
 - The school will maintain a **strong safeguarding culture**, with behaviour concerns recorded, monitored and acted upon appropriately.
 - Multi-agency support will be considered where behaviour indicates unmet need or risk.
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Staff Authority and Support

The Governing Board fully supports staff in exercising their **lawful powers** to:

- Discipline pupils for misbehaviour, including beyond the school gate
- Use **reasonable force** where necessary to keep people safe
- Screen, search and confiscate prohibited items in line with statutory guidance

The Board also expects that:

- Staff accused of misconduct will receive **appropriate pastoral support**
 - No policy will unlawfully restrict staff from exercising their professional judgement and statutory powers
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Serious and Dangerous Behaviour

The Governing Board expects that:

- Behaviour that threatens the **safety, welfare or dignity** of others will be addressed swiftly and proportionately.
 - Suspension or exclusion may be used **only when necessary**, and always alongside consideration of support, safeguarding and reintegration.
 - The safety of the whole school community will always be a priority.
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Consultation and Review

This Statement of Behaviour Principles:

- Has been developed following consultation with the Headteacher and staff
- Is published on the school website in line with statutory requirements
- Will be **reviewed annually** by the Governing Board