



Governors' Statement of Behaviour Principles

Rationale and purpose

1. This statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006, and DfE guidance [Behaviour and Discipline in Schools 2016].
2. The purpose of the Statement is to provide guidance for the Headteacher in drawing up the school's Behaviour Policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of governors, staff and parents for the children in the school as well as taking full account of the law and guidance on behaviour matters. It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of recognition and reward for good behaviour, discipline and sanctions for unacceptable behaviour and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the Governors' 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, although he/she must take account of these principles for formulating this. The Headteacher is also asked to take account of the guidance in the DfE publication, Behaviour and Discipline in Schools 2016.
4. The Behaviour Policy is published on the school website.

Principles

- All children, staff and visitors have the right to feel safe at all times at school.
- Stocks Green Primary School is an inclusive school. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort.
- The school rules should be clearly set out in the Behaviour Policy and displayed around the school. Governors expect these rules to be consistently applied by all staff.
- Governors would expect 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 behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and pupils, and consistently applied.
- It is recognized that the use of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and the individual pupil. The Headteacher is expected to use his/her discretion in their use. Sanctions should however be applied fairly, consistently, proportionally and reasonably, taking into account SEND, disability and the needs of vulnerable children, offering support as necessary.
- The governors feel that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must only be used as a last resort.

- The governors expect pupils and parents to cooperate to maintain an orderly climate for learning.
- The governors emphasise that violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by pupils or parents towards the school's staff will not be tolerated. If a parent does not conduct himself/herself appropriately, the school may ban them from the school premises. If the parent continues to cause disturbance, he or she may be liable to prosecution.
- Governors will support any disciplinary action that is taken by the school against children who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff and have the expectation that school staff will receive pastoral support if they are accused of misusing their powers.
- Governors expect the Headteacher to include in the Behaviour Policy, details of the schools' power to discipline outside the school gates: disciplining beyond the school gates covers the school's response to all non-criminal inappropriate behaviour and bullying that occurs anywhere off the schools premises. The governors must be satisfied, in all situations arising, that the measures proposed by the Headteacher are lawful and that staff and pupils know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.

Searching pupils

School staff may search pupils with their permission for any item that is banned by the school rules. The Headteacher, and staff authorised by the Headteacher, have the power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they suspect the pupils has weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs or stolen items. The school will not normally conduct a *without consent* search but will contact the child's parents instead. The use of this power will therefore be a last resort.

Use of reasonable force

All school 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 and around the school. The Headteacher should be informed of any incident that has led to the use of these powers, and the incident must be recorded.