

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL

# Governing Body Statement of Behaviour Principles

I am special in God's eyes

We will be a happy, welcoming school with Christ at the centre, where everyone is recognised as special

“Do not be afraid for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by your name,  
you are mine.

Because you are precious in my eyes,  
because you are honoured and I love you.”

Isaiah 43 : 2-5

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 determining measures to promote good behaviour and discipline amongst pupils. 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.

At St Joseph's Catholic Infant School, we believe children need a positive and supportive ethos to encourage them to thrive. Our behaviour principles are ones of creating positive relationships between all stake holders in our school community.

**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:**

- Good teaching and learning promotes 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, and which are described in the school's Equality Policy, 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:**

- We believe children should be at the heart of the development of the school rules and these should be reviewed regularly with them.
- School rules will be detailed in our Behaviour Policy and displayed in all classrooms. We believe in consistent systems differentiated by age, in taking responsibility for our actions – in choice and consequence.
- We expect that all staff will support rules and code and ensure consistent application and expectations across the school day.

**Positive Reinforcement:**

- We are committed to intrinsic rather than extrinsic reward systems based on positive praise.
- Good behaviour should be modelled by teachers and all adults working within the school. Actively encouraging and praising positive, caring behaviour will help to promote a happy, secure school environment.
- We believe children should be given opportunities and openly encouraged to support each other in this process of personal growth, learning and recognising good behaviour.

**Sanctions:**

- Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff, other adults with authority for behaviour, pupils and parents/carers including extended provision.
- It is important that sanctions are monitored for their proper use, consistency and effective impact.
- Exclusion from school is regarded as a last resort and will be avoided as far as possible. It may be used in response to a single extreme incident or after a long series of serious misdemeanours. Local Authority guidance will be followed in such cases including writing a behaviour management plan for any pupil at risk of exclusion. Parents will be informed and involved in the preparation of the plan. If exclusion becomes necessary, the statutory exclusion procedures will be followed and parents will be informed of their right of appeal.

**Home School Agreement:**

- The Home/School Agreement will be an important part of communicating our approach so that parents/carers can be encouraged to support their child, just as the pupils should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time at school, in the wider community and in preparation for their life after school.
- The responsibilities of children, parents/carers and all school staff with respect to their and their children's behaviour should be outlined in the Home School Agreement which parents/carers and the school must be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.

These behaviour principles were agreed by the Governing Body of St Joseph's Catholic Infant School on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and will be reviewed at least every 4 years.