



CHARD SCHOOL

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

We believe that children develop best in a structured environment in which everyone, adults and children, know what is expected of them. Children must be free to develop their play and learning in a relaxed atmosphere but with clear parameters of acceptable behaviour. They should not be in fear of being hurt mentally or physically and should be able to develop self-discipline and self-esteem through mutual respect and encouragement.

In all aspects of school life, the following principles are followed:

- Good behaviour is based on common sense and Christian principles.
- We aim to provide a supportive environment for the pupils in which they feel able to fulfil all aspects of their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- The development of pupil's independence, self-esteem and self-confidence is central to our aims.
- The need for good discipline is essential if we are to fulfil our aims for the pupils and if we are to ensure the health and safety of all members of the school community.
- It is hoped that standards expected by staff and parents are the same and therefore the school expects backing from parents on matters of discipline.
- Mutual respect between staff, parents and pupils is expected and therefore the encouragement and reinforcement of good behaviour are essential both at school and in the home.
- Pupils are expected to develop a respect for others, for themselves, for property, for the school and for the wider community through good manners.

In order to achieve this, the following guidelines apply

1. School rules are based on common sense and there is no exhaustive list written down. Silence is expected at certain times e.g. in line-ups, assemblies and lessons. Running in buildings is not acceptable.
2. The following behaviour is also considered unacceptable:
 - (a) poor behaviour in lessons
 - (b) deliberate damage to property
 - (c) physical or verbal abuse of other pupils
 - (d) failure to wear uniform correctly
 - (e) possessing a prohibited item*

3. Pupils will be made aware of rules, as they arise (often in Assembly) and they will be expected to act within these rules.
4. Where sanctions are necessary, at school, then they will be appropriate and in proportion to the offence, carried out as soon as possible, so that the child may "wipe the slate clean" and make a fresh start.
 - All rules should be agreed by all the staff.
 - Pupils should have the security of knowing what to expect and what is expected of them.
 - All adults should apply rules consistently.
 - All adults should try to be positive role models for the pupils with regard to courtesy, care and friendliness.
 - The pupils should always be praised for showing kindness to others and for being helpful.
 - The school is committed to reinforcing good behaviour rather than simply sanctioning poor behaviour and positive steps should be taken to ensure that a pupil does not receive adult attention only for bad behaviour.

When a pupil does behave in an unacceptable way, appropriate sanctions will be issued bearing in mind that

- Physical punishment will never be used or threatened, nor will any form of punishment intended to cause pain, anxiety or humiliation.
- The purpose of any sanction should not be to humiliate the pupil.
- A pupil who has misbehaved will be given adult support in guiding him/her to understand what was wrong with the behaviour and to work towards a better pattern. The adult will need to have regard to the pupil's age and level of understanding.
- It should always be stressed that it is the behaviour that is unacceptable, not the pupil.
- Parents will be informed if persistent or serious problems arise.

If the unacceptable behaviour is deemed to be bullying, then the school's Anti-Bullying Policy will be followed.

Sanctions

Criteria

- (a) Should be capable of being clearly understood by staff, pupils and parents.

- (b) Should be applied consistently
- (c) Should be appropriate, i.e. match the offence both in nature and scale.
- (d) Should have a deterrent and/or remedial value.
- (e) Should aim to raise standards and act as a spur to improvement.
- (f) Should be practical and enforceable in terms of the school situation and staff demands.
- (g) Should be progressive, i.e. have a further line of action in the face of intractability.
 1. Staff present at the time of infringements should deal with the problem appropriately and immediately.
 2. Pupils will be given "break detentions", i.e. made to stay at break, for breaching rules, particularly those regarding silence and for offences at play times.
 3. There is an "on report" system - whereby a pupil has to report to each member of staff who teaches them at the end of a lesson and at the end of each break period, for a written comment on work and behaviour. These are shown to the Head at the end of each day and taken home to be shown to parents, who have to sign and make comments if necessary, before being brought back to the Head the next day. This sanction will only be used for persistent poor work or extreme behaviour and will be linked to a specific problem, e.g. meeting deadlines, low quality of homework, unacceptable behaviour, etc. Comments should then be specific to the problems.
 4. Parents may be informed about misdemeanors, if it is felt necessary.

In the case of persistent or extreme lapses of behaviour, the Head would contact parents for a discussion on the child's future welfare and any sanctions that may be necessary. Suspension or exclusion can be used, as a last resort. In the case of a pupil who is found to have made malicious allegations against a member of staff, the Head would consider whether to apply an appropriate sanction, which could include temporary or permanent exclusion (as well as referral to the police if there are grounds for believing a criminal offence may have been committed).

- 5.
6. The Head keeps a record of all incidents relating to poor behaviour.
7. Chard School follows the DfE's July 2013 advice for schools on the use of reasonable force; please see the separate Use of Force Policy.

Last Reviewed: January 2017
Next Review Due: January 2018
Behaviour Policy

*The DfE document of 2014 states that Heads and members of staff authorised by them have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item. Prohibited items are:

- knives or weapons
- alcohol
- illegal drugs
- stolen items
- tobacco and cigarette papers
- fireworks
- pornographic images
- any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or
- to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil).

