

Behaviour & Discipline

How does the school create a positive approach with its young people ?

We provide consistent adult reinforcement of positive attitudes and behaviour by way of praise and reward. Where behaviour is unacceptable, young people are addressed and where appropriate, immediate and relevant sanctions are applied.

All members should respond to the acceptable behaviour of the young people in our care positively, looking to reward or congratulate whenever possible.

Is there any difference between the rewards and sanction in the school day and social time ?

Given the fact that the school has a 24-hour curriculum, the methods of reward and measures of control and discipline are diverse and so have to reflect this. The school day has a behaviour managements system that is based on points. During social time each house organises its own behaviour management system appropriate to its age group and expectations. This may consist of small weekly rewards to be earned and greater long-term prizes such as special visits off site or gift vouchers.

School day points system

To support positive behaviour and for pupils to gauge how well they doing with their work and behaviour lesson by lesson, we run a points system that goes throughout the school day. In this, it is possible for pupils to earn up to 30 points for which they can earn from between 2p and 5p per point, depending upon year group. This means that if the pupil earns full points everyday of the week they could take between £2.82 and £7.05 home on the Friday.

Merits

Merits are also awarded in recognition of sustained positive behaviour and attitude.

Subject Awards

Certificates of Achievement are awarded in all curriculum subject areas for satisfactory work and effort and these are presented in assembly on a regular basis.

What happens if pupils earn low points or walks out of class ?

Pupils who score 23 points or less attend detention after 4pm. Detention will last a minimum of 15 minutes and a further 5 minutes is added for every point the pupil is under 23. If a pupil walks out of class they will make up lost learning time by working in their own time between 6-7pm

Does the school have a Support room ?

Yes, during the school day a Support room is available to pupils who are not managing or feeling upset, so that their behaviour does not negatively affect the learning and behaviour of other pupils in class. This facility is to be used as a last resort by teachers and not just because pupils say “I want time out” or “I’m not working” It is staffed by 2 members of staff, who aim to resettle the pupil so that they can return to class as soon as possible.

How do members of staff respond when they see inappropriate behaviour ?

All members of staff have a responsibility to address inappropriate behaviour every time they see it and, where necessary or appropriate, implement a sanction that is applicable and appropriate. Any sanction given should take into account the young person’s age, understanding, individual needs and the circumstances and evidence around the situation.

Does the school use any form of physical intervention to support pupils ?

It is obvious that children experiencing social, emotional and behavioural difficulties will at sometime go beyond the boundaries of acceptable behaviour. In order to support pupils when this happens, the school trains its staff in a physical intervention method called Team Teach. This is a popular program used by many other schools and Local Authorities, which is kite marked by BILD (British Institute of Learning Difficulties).

The aim of any support is to de-escalate the situation and to encourage pupils to manage their own behaviour before it becomes a risk to either themselves or others, or disrupts the learning of other pupils, or before something is damaged. Inevitably though, this is not always successful and there are occasions when young people can put themselves into situations where they may need to be held.

As far as possible physical intervention is used as a last resort when working with other pupils who will not respond and where staff have exhausted other strategies such as guidance and instruction, diversion, de-escalation, diffusion, negotiation and the influence of their positive relationships.

Will I be told whenever my child is involved in an incident where a physical intervention has been used ?

Yes, absolutely. We want you to know every time something like this happens, especially where you might be able to help prevent something similar happening again. We will also tell you if incidents have not gone well and we are concerned that you should know before it might lead to a physical intervention.

If physical interventions are becoming more regular we will also inform the referring Local Authority and Social Worker, if the pupil has one. We will also speak to the local Child Protection Officer, who visits on a regular basis to talk with the schools CP officers.