



# **St John Fisher RC Primary School**

## **Governors' Written Statement of Behaviour Principles**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**Love Jesus, love learning,  
Inspiring each other to be the best that we can be.**

This document is not policy or practice, rather it is a statement to set out St John Fisher RC Primary School broad principles and values with regard to behaviour that is both expected and promoted within the school.

Actual, practical applications of these principles are the responsibility of the Headteacher, who will view each case in light of these principles and any relevant policies.

The Governing Board is aware and approves of this statement, believing it accurately reflects the school's ethos and that effective learning and development relies on good standards of behaviour.

This is why, at St John Fisher RC Primary School, we seek to uphold high standards of behaviour that are guided by the principles within this statement.

The purpose of this 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 our school, as well as taking into account 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 discipline and sanctions and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the support of Governors when following this guidance.

### **Principles**

- The school's Mission Statement and aims reflect its Catholic ethos; this underpins every aspect of school life, including our policy and principles for managing behaviour.
- We believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school, enabling all pupils to make the best possible progress, as well as promoting good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
- All staff and pupils have the right to feel safe at all times in school. There should be mutual respect between staff and pupils and between each other. All visitors to school should feel safe and free from the effects of poor behaviour.
- St John Fisher RC Primary School is an inclusive school. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort.
- Parents/carers should be encouraged and helped to support their child's education. Children should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time in school, in the local community and in preparation for their life after school.
- Expectations for behaviour should be clearly stated in the Behaviour Policy. Rules should be displayed in the classroom and around school where appropriate. These should be shared with and explained to the children. The governors expect rules to be consistently applied and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.

- The school will create and maintain an atmosphere and ethos of tolerance, equality, diversity, respect, understanding, kindness, caring, empathy and a sense of citizenship throughout the school community in everyday practice.
- All pupils have a right to fulfil their greatest academic and personal potential and feel they are valued members of the school by both their peers and school staff, and should be free from bullying, discrimination and distracting peer behaviour.
- Good behaviour around school is to be acknowledged and rewarded at the discretion of staff, who will judge appropriately.
- In cases of problematic pupil behaviour, regardless of how sustained and disruptive, the pupil's out-of-school circumstances and possible special educational needs and disabilities must be taken into account. Comprehensive support is given before or alongside disciplinary measures – exclusions and expulsions are to be used only as a last resort where other measures fail.
- Any kind of violence, threatening behaviour or abuse between pupils, or by pupils/parents/carers towards the school's staff, will not be tolerated. If a parent/carer does not conduct himself/herself properly, the school reserves the right to ban them from the school premises and, if the parent/carer continues to cause disturbance, he or she may be liable to prosecution.

The Governors expect the Headteacher to include the following in the Behaviour Policy:

- The power to use reasonable force or to make physical contact; the situations in which reasonable force may be used (including removing disruptive pupils from classrooms or preventing them from leaving) should be stated. A definition of reasonable force should be included, which should also explain how and when pupils should be restrained. Governors expect all staff to be trained in the use of reasonable force and restraint.
- The power to discipline outside the school gates; disciplining beyond the school gates covers the school's response to all non-criminal bad behaviour and bullying that occurs anywhere off the school premises. The Governors must be satisfied that the measures proposed by the Headteacher are lawful and that staff and pupils know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.

### **General expectations**

- All members of the school community should be aware of behavioural expectations and the relevant policies, and agree to them as fair and reasonable. These will be made readily available to read and general expectations will be displayed in classrooms and around the school.
- Polite and considerate behaviour is to be maintained by all around the school, both in and out of the classroom.
- Offensive or insulting language is not to be used in any circumstances, deliberately or otherwise.
- Each pupil receives the necessary behavioural support according to their specific needs.
- Bullying (and cyber bullying) is not tolerated and pupils should report any case of bullying they experience or observe to school staff.
- Pupils should help staff by showing good behaviour in the classroom, not distracting themselves or others from important learning.
- Staff will lead by example and model their conduct in line with the school's standards.
- To keep the pupils and staff safe, the Headteacher will utilise their powers to search or use reasonable force in order to keep individuals from harming, or further harming, themselves or others.
- Everyone in the St John Fisher RC Primary School community should understand that the school's emphasis is on encouraging and praising good behaviour and supporting individuals who are struggling to meet the expected behavioural standards.

This written statement, and the policies that are influenced by it, applies to all pupils and staff inside and outside of school, when acting as ambassadors, when engaged in extra-curricular activities, such

as educational trips and visits (residential and non-residential) and when being educated as a member of St John Fisher RC Primary School.

### **Review**

The Statement of Principles will be reviewed every two years or as necessary. The school's Behaviour Policy will be reviewed annually.

### **Document history**

| Date           | Amendments         |
|----------------|--------------------|
| April 2018     | Original documents |
| September 2019 | Reviewed           |
| September 2020 | Reviewed           |
| September 2021 | Reviewed           |
| September 2022 | Reviewed           |
| September 2023 | Reviewed           |
| September 2024 | Reviewed           |
| September 2025 | Reviewed           |