

## Stithians Community Primary School

### Behaviour principles



The Education and Inspectors Act 2006 and DfE guidance (Behaviour in Schools, 2012) requires the Governors to make and frequently review, a written statement of general behaviour principles to guide the Head teacher in determining measures to promote good behaviour.

This is a statement of principles, not practice.

Practical applications of these principles are the responsibility of the Head teacher. The statement has been adopted by the Governing Body as a whole, following consultation with the Head teacher, parents, staff and pupils.

The Governors at Stithians School believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school that enable children to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life.

At Stithians School, we value everyone as an individual, capable of growth, change and development. Our relationships are underpinned by the principles of justice, equality, mutual respect, fairness and consistency. We have high expectations that support the development of our pupils as effective and responsible citizens.

The purpose of this statement is to give guidance to the Head teacher in drawing up the Behaviour Policy by stating the principles that the Governors expect to be followed.

The governors expect any policy or actions to be in accordance with their responsibility under equality legislation.

#### Behaviour Principles:

We believe that all members of our school community should be able to learn and achieve in a safe, secure and purposeful environment. We value the development of strong, positive and appropriate relationships among all members of our school community so that everyone feels welcome and included.

We have high expectations of everyone and we will actively promote equality of value whether race, gender, age, sexuality, religion or disability. The behaviour policy is based on our belief in, and

respect for, the value and contribution of all members of our community and their right to succeed. We seek to eliminate all forms of discrimination, harassment and bullying.

The policy will be applied with consistency and fairness, with regard to each individual situation. The emphasis will be on encouraging positive behaviour through high expectations; a focus on learning; appropriate praise and celebration of outcomes.

When children do not meet the expectations, either through consistent low-level disruption or more severe incidences, we will always try to teach the child what is expected, without humiliation or in public view. At these points, we will enable the child to reflect on, and learn from, their behaviour and to make reparation wherever possible.

On occasions sanctions may be necessary to demonstrate that challenging behaviour is not acceptable; to provide boundaries and make our expectations clear. Sanctions should be known and understood by all staff and pupils and applied fairly, consistently, proportionally and reasonably. It is recognised that the use of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and the individual student.

The Governors expect the Head teacher to use their discretion in the use of sanctions and to balance the needs of staff, children and parents when considering measures to manage unacceptable/challenging behaviour.

Those children with special educational needs, physical or mental health needs, and looked after pupils can experience particular difficulties with behaviour and the school will seek to ensure that such pupils receive behavioural support according to their need. However, when making decisions the school must balance the needs of the individual with those of the school community and where pupil behaviour places others at risk, the safety of the pupil body as a whole is paramount.

The Governing body supports the school's authority to consider exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, as the very last resort and expects pupils and parents to cooperate to maintain an orderly climate for learning.

Given the overriding need to keep children safe, the school will utilise its powers to search and to use reasonable force in order to keep individuals from harming, or further harming, themselves or others. All such difficult situations will be handled with utmost respect of all the individuals involved, including children, their families and staff.

The Governors wish to 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 properly, the school may ban them from the school premises and, if the parent continues to cause disturbance, he or she may be liable to prosecution.

The Governors expect the Head teacher to include guidance on the use of reasonable force, within the Behaviour Policy.

We will always work with parents and carers to understand their children and their circumstances and believe this relationship is an important part of building a strong learning community. Similarly, given our duty of care to the pupils, this written statement and the policies that both stem from it and are influenced by it (for example, appropriate contact, behaviour, anti-bullying and exclusions) apply to all pupils when in school, when travelling to and from school, and when engaged in extra-curricular activities such as educational trips and visits (residential and non-residential).