

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Introduction

We believe in a positive, proactive and inclusive approach to behaviour management that emphasises the importance of praise and attempts to "catch them being good". We aim to develop in our children:

- the habit of self-discipline and independence
- self-respect and respect for others
- self awareness, self control and awareness of other's feelings
- positive relationships and the self confidence to successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges
- the ability to choose not to bully or discriminate
- the values of truth, politeness and good manners
- respect for property and the environment
- responsibility for their own actions

The Golden Rules are at the heart of our approach to behaviour management. They set our expectations of all members of the school community, children and adults alike:

<i>Do be gentle</i>	<i>Do not hurt anybody</i>
<i>Do be kind and helpful</i>	<i>Do not hurt people's feelings</i>
<i>Do work hard</i>	<i>Do not waste your or other people's time</i>
<i>Do look after property</i>	<i>Do not waste or damage things</i>
<i>Do listen to people</i>	<i>Do not interrupt</i>
<i>Do be honest</i>	<i>Do not cover up the truth</i>

They are displayed prominently around the school and are regularly referred to during the school day in class and assemblies.

Activities such as circle time are undertaken in every class on regular basis and in response to behavioural issues as they arise. They provide an opportunity for children to explore their feelings, share concerns and work together to try to find solutions within a secure and supportive framework. It helps children develop a sense of responsibility and accountability. Guidance on the implementation of circle time and support for circle time is available from the Inclusion Manager.

Some children have difficulty managing their behaviour and this can disrupt the class. In such cases we will design behavioural report systems to monitor and promote positive behaviours using agreed rewards and sanctions. We do not believe in, or ever use, corporal punishment. We retain the right to exclude children either from class to "cool off" or in extreme circumstances from the school. This is always a last resort, and generally only where there are serious health and safety concerns.

Bullying

We recognise that bullying may occur amongst the pupils. Bullying is unacceptable and all staff work hard to ensure that bullying is challenged and that victims are supported. It is essential that all staff and parents remain vigilant to the potential for bullying to occur. Many disputes between children such as accidental mishaps, one off incidents and childish quarrels are normal and are not examples of bullying. ¹Teasing, some fighting and falling out with friends is a normal part of school age relationships.

¹Bullying can be defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Bullies and victims may be unconsciously drawn to each other.

Bullying flourishes in a climate of secrecy. Therefore we encourage children to talk to their teachers about any issues that are worrying them and to be assertive in dealing with bullies. Circle time provides one opportunity for children to discuss issues of concern. It is essential that children are empowered to deal appropriately with bullying and are fully involved in any actions taken.

All incidents of bullying are logged and reported to the Governing Body. A range of positive behaviour modification strategies are used as appropriate.

Racism

Racism is unacceptable and will be challenged by the school. The school will continuously explore its practices to ensure that they are not discriminatory. Racism is a form of bullying whereby the bully uses a person's cultural, ethnic or religious background to upset or denigrate them. Racist name calling is a common form of racism and will be challenged wherever possible in school. Our procedures for bullying apply to racist incidents, i.e. children are encouraged to talk about incidents and to be assertive. Racist incidents are logged, monitored and reported to the Governing Body.

Parents

Parents are ultimately responsible for the behaviour of their children whilst at school. All parents are requested to sign our home-school agreement and are expected to fully support this policy.

We value and believe that education must be a partnership between home and school, both working together for common aims. Good communication between home and school is essential for dealing with behavioural issues, bullying or racism. There are rarely any "quick fix" solutions. We will support parents by offering advice and providing links with other support agencies. In return we expect parents to support the school in its efforts to promote positive behaviour amongst the pupils and tackle disruptive behaviour. Parents should encourage their children to talk to their teachers about any problems in school. Parents must approach the school as soon as problems arise rather than let them "fester" to the point where negative patterns of behaviour have been established. It is not acceptable for parents to approach other parents, or the children of other parents regarding concerns that may have arisen in school.

The school is able to provide support for any parents worried about their child's behaviour. Concerned parents should contact Mrs. Huke, our Inclusion Manager. Alternatively parents may wish to use an external agency such as the Enfield Parent Partnership Service (020 8373 6209) or Child and Family Guidance Service (020 8379 2000).

¹ definitions from www.parentscentre.gov.uk and www.bbc.co.uk