



Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Behavioural Policy

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Contents:

Statement of intent

1. [Legal framework](#)
2. [Roles and responsibilities](#)
3. [Definitions](#)
4. [Managing behaviour](#)
5. [Prevention strategies and sanctions for unacceptable behaviour](#)
6. [Sexual abuse and discrimination](#)
7. [Smoking and controlled substances](#)
8. [Prohibited items, searching pupils and confiscation](#)
9. [Effective classroom management](#)
10. [Behaviour off school premises](#)
11. [Monitoring and review](#)

Appendices

- A. [Behaviour Contract](#)
- B. [Behavioural Incident Form](#)
- C. [Behavioural Management Observations Review Form](#)

Vision Statement

We believe that all people are precious and honoured in God's sight. From this comes a determination for all in our care and in our partnerships to experience life in all its fullness, as promised by Jesus. We embrace the spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional, moral, and social development of our young people.

Statement of intent

A high standard of behaviour is an expectation at Holy Trinity and all members of the school community should use and be consistent with the same approach. The behaviour of the individual, should be managed by the individual, and the behaviour of whole groups should be managed by adults in the school. The behaviour management policy at Holy Trinity C of E Primary School is supported by the Behaviour Recovery approach.

Holy Trinity C of E Primary School believes that, in order to facilitate teaching and learning, acceptable behaviour must be demonstrated in all aspects of school life. The school is committed to:

- Promoting desired behaviour.
- Promoting self-esteem, self-discipline, proper regard for authority, and positive relationships based on mutual respect.
- Ensuring equality and fair treatment for all.
- Praising and rewarding good behaviour.
- Challenging and disciplining misbehaviour.
- Providing a safe environment free from disruption, violence, discrimination, bullying and any form of harassment.
- Encouraging positive relationships with parents.
- Developing positive relationships with pupils to enable early intervention.
- A shared approach which involves pupils in the implementation of the school's policy and associated procedures.
- Promoting a culture of praise and encouragement in which all pupils can achieve.

The school acknowledges that behaviour can sometimes be the result of educational needs, mental health issues, or other needs or vulnerabilities, and will address these needs via an individualised graduated response.

To help reduce the likelihood of behavioural issues related to social, emotional or mental health (SEMH), the school aims to create a safe and calm environment in which positive mental health and wellbeing are promoted and pupils are taught to be resilient. The school aims to promote resilience as part of a whole-school approach using the following methods:

- **Culture, ethos and environment** – the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff is promoted through the informal curriculum, including leadership practice, policies, values and attitudes, alongside the social and physical environment
- **Teaching** – the curriculum is used to develop pupils' knowledge about health and wellbeing

- **Community engagement** – the school proactively engages with parents, outside agencies and the wider community to promote consistent support for pupils' health and wellbeing

Where vulnerable pupils or groups are identified, provision will be made to support and promote their positive mental health. The school's Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Policy outlines the specific procedures that will be used to assess these pupils for any SEMH-related difficulties that could affect their behaviour.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education Act 1996
- Education Act 2002
- Equality Act 2010
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Health Act 2006
- Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019
- The School Information (England) Regulations 2008
- DfE (2024) 'Behaviour in schools' Advice for headteachers and school staff
- DfE (2025) 'Keeping children safe in education 2025'
- DfE (2018) 'Mental health and behaviour in schools'
- DfE (2015) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years'
- DfE (2013) 'Use of reasonable force'
- DfE (2023) 'Searching, screening and confiscation at school: advice for schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child friendly behaviour policy
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Policy
- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Exclusion Policy
- Positive Handling Policy
- Child-on-Child Abuse Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Smoke-Free Policy
- Pupil Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy: Pupils

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board has overall responsibility for:

- Ensuring that this policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds, including, but not limited to, age, disability, gender reassignment, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- Promoting a whole-school culture where calm, dignity and structure encompass every space and activity.
- Handling complaints regarding this policy, as outlined in the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- The monitoring and implementation of this policy and of the behaviour procedures at the school. This includes the policy's effectiveness in addressing any SEMH-related drivers of poor behaviour.
- Establishing the standard of behaviour expected by pupils at the school.
- Determining the school rules and any disciplinary sanctions for breaking the rules.
- The day-to-day implementation of this policy.
- Publishing this policy and making it available to staff, parents and pupils at least once a year.
- Reporting to the governing board on the implementation of this policy, including its effectiveness in addressing any SEMH-related issues that could be driving disruptive behaviour.

The mental health lead is responsible for:

- Overseeing the whole-school approach to mental health, including how this is reflected in this policy, how staff are supported with managing pupils with SEMH-related behavioural difficulties, and how the school engages pupils and parents with regards to the behaviour of pupils with SEMH difficulties.
- Supporting behaviour management in line with the Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Policy.

The Deputy Headteacher is responsible for:

- Collaborating with the governing board, headteacher and the mental health lead, as part of the SLT, to determine the strategic development of behavioural and SEMH policies and provisions in the school.
- Undertaking day-to-day responsibilities for the successful operation of the behavioural and SEMH policies to support pupils with SEND, in line with the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy.

The SENCO is responsible for:

- Collaborating with the headteacher and deputy headteacher, as part of the SLT, to determine the strategic development of SEMH policies and provisions in the school.
- Actively supporting the day-to-day responsibilities for the successful operation of the behavioural and SEMH policies to support pupils with SEND, in line with the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy.
- Supporting teachers in the further assessment of a pupil's strengths and areas for improvement and advising on the effective implementation of support.

Teaching staff are responsible for:

- Planning and reviewing support for pupils with behavioural difficulties in collaboration with parents, the SENCO and, where appropriate, the pupils themselves.
- Supporting pupils to manage their behaviour.
- Aiming to teach all pupils the full curriculum, whatever their prior attainment.
- Planning lessons to address potential areas of difficulty to ensure that there are no barriers to every pupil achieving their full potential, and that every pupil with behavioural difficulties will be able to study the full national curriculum.
- Being responsible and accountable for the progress and development of the pupils in their class.

All members of staff, including teaching and support staff, and volunteers are responsible for:

- Adhering to this policy and applying it in line with the ethos and values of the school.
- Supporting pupils to manage their behaviour.
- Promoting a supportive and high-quality learning environment.
- Modelling high levels of behaviour.
- Being aware of the signs of behavioural difficulties and intervening swiftly to support and reduce any chance of escalation.
- Setting high expectations for every pupil.
- Being aware of the needs, outcomes sought, and support provided to any pupils with specific behavioural needs.
- Keeping the relevant figures of authority up-to-date with any changes in behaviour.
The relevant figures of authority include:
 - Assistant headteacher for Inclusion.
 - Headteacher.
 - Deputy headteacher
- As authorised by the headteacher, disciplining pupils who display poor levels of behaviour. This responsibility includes the power to discipline pupils even when they are not in school or in the charge of a member of staff.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Their own behaviour both inside school and out in the wider community.
- Reporting any unacceptable behaviour to a member of staff.

Parents are responsible for:

- Promoting positive attitudes towards school and learning outside of school.
- Promoting the school's learning behaviours at home especially through homework.
- Working with school in order to ensure that their child / children comply with the behaviour and discipline policy. This may include attending meetings in addition to parents evening.
- Informing school of any issues that may impact on their child's behaviour.
- Reading and signing the Home School agreement on a yearly basis.
- Raising any complaints about the school's behaviour and discipline policy or its application by following the school's complaints procedure.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the school defines "serious unacceptable behaviour" as any behaviour which may cause harm to oneself or others, damage the reputation of the school within the wider community, and/or any illegal behaviour. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- **Discrimination** – not giving equal respect to an individual on the basis of age, disability, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation
- **Harassment** – behaviour towards others which is unwanted, offensive and affects the dignity of the individual or group of individuals
- **Vexatious behaviour** – deliberately acting in a manner so as to cause annoyance or irritation
- **Bullying** – a type of harassment which involves personal abuse or persistent actions which humiliate, intimidate, frighten or demean the individual being bullied
- **Cyberbullying** – the use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature
- Possession of legal or illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco
- Possession of banned items
- Truancy and running away from school
- Refusing to comply with disciplinary sanctions
- Theft
- Verbal abuse, including swearing, racist remarks and threatening language
- Fighting and aggression
- Persistent disobedience or destructive behaviour
- Extreme behaviour, such as violence and serious vandalism
- Any behaviour that threatens safety or presents a serious danger
- Any behaviour that seriously inhibits the learning of pupils
- Any behaviour that requires the immediate attention of a staff member

For the purposes of this policy, the school defines "low-level unacceptable behaviour" as any behaviour which may disrupt the education of the perpetrator and/or other pupils, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Lateness

- Low-level disruption and talking in class
- Failure to complete classwork
- Rudeness
- Lack of correct equipment
- Refusing to complete homework, incomplete homework, or arriving at school without homework
- Disruption on public transport
- Use of mobile phones without permission
- Graffiti

“Low-level unacceptable behaviour” may be escalated to “serious unacceptable behaviour”, depending on the severity/frequency of the behaviour.

4. Managing behaviour

Learning Behaviours

At Holy Trinity School developing key learning behaviours is an integral part of teaching. This is to ensure that our pupils are lifelong independent learners and not over dependent on others for their learning. We aim to promote the following learning behaviours in each of the phases of school.

- FS – cooperation, inquisitiveness, independence
- KS1 – Risk Taking, Collaboration, Problem Solving
- KS2 – Making Links, Resilience, Reflection & Perseverance

Christian Values

As a Church of England school all staff will model and promote key Christian values throughout their work in and out of the classroom. These are Justice, Service, Perseverance, Gratitude, Compassion and Courage which build on our previous values of Peace, Hope, Honesty, Friendship, Forgiveness and Respect.

Behaviour recovery

The school uses a Behaviour Recovery approach to managing behaviour supported by the Good to be Green system. A key principle of Behaviour Recovery is to allow children to ‘recover’ their behaviour, in other words to calm down and think about their behaviour so that they can return to learning as soon as possible.

The structured cycle allows staff to maintain a low-key approach to the lowest levels of behaviour support maximising the time spent on teaching and learning. The graduated response also supports children who may be experiencing a heightened state of emotion in the least intrusive way.

The pastoral lead will keep a record of all reported incidents to help identify pupils whose behaviour may indicate potential mental health problems.

It's Good to be Green (Stages of behaviour)

If a pupil displays behaviours that are not conducive with good learning and / or a harmonious community, they will be given a number of opportunities to reflect on their inappropriate behaviour. These opportunities are hierarchical.

1. **Non-Verbal Reminder.** This could be a 'look' or an action that should remind the pupil of the expected behaviour.
2. **A Verbal Reminder.** Again this should remind the pupil of the expected behaviour. A 'Stop and Think' card will be displayed on the behaviour chart.
3. A yellow warning card will be issued indicating that 5 mins of playtime/lunchtime will be lost. This will be recorded in classroom records.
4. A red consequence card will be given and playtime will be missed. This will be recorded in classroom records.

If a pupil displays a 'Bottom Liner' behaviour or has a series of red and yellow cards that demonstrate behaviour is not improving, they will be taken immediately to a member of SLT. This may result in HT Halos being withdrawn. Under these circumstances parents / carers will be notified.

Bottom Liner Behaviours are: Verbal aggression towards a pupil or member of staff, physical aggression towards a pupil or a member of staff and ignoring the instruction of a member of staff.

Fixed Term Suspensions

Where a pupil's behaviour is serious or continuous the HT may take the decision to suspend the pupil for a fixed term following a thorough investigation. The length of the suspension will be dependent of the nature and severity of the behaviour. The number of previous fixed term suspensions will also be taken into account. Parents will be notified of any suspension immediately. They will have the right to appeal the decision. Such an appeal should be put in writing to the Chair of Governors C/O Holy Trinity C of E Primary School. Full details are outlined in the Exclusions Policy.

The school will ensure that all discipline is reasonable in all circumstances, and will consider the pupil's age, religious requirements, SEMH needs, any SEND, and any other relevant information.

5. Prevention strategies and sanctions for unacceptable behaviour

This section outlines the school's strategies for preventing unacceptable behaviour, minimising the severity of incidents, and using sanctions effectively and appropriately to improve pupils' behaviour in the future.

Positive teacher-pupil relationships

Positive teacher-pupil relationships are key to combatting unacceptable behaviour. The school focusses heavily on forming these relationships to allow teachers to understand their pupils and create a strong foundation from which behavioural change can take place.

De-escalation strategies

Staff have been MAPA trained to use de-escalation strategies. Where negative behaviour is present, staff members will implement these strategies to diffuse the situation. This includes:

- Appearing calm and using a modulated, low tone of voice
- Using simple, direct language.
- Using the language and attitude of 'I'm here to help' to support pupils to manage their behaviour.
- Avoiding being defensive, e.g. if comments or insults are directed at the staff member.
- Providing adequate personal space and not blocking a pupil's escape route unless this would be dangerous.
- Showing open, accepting body language, e.g. not standing with their arms crossed.
- Reassuring the pupil and creating an outcome goal.
- Identifying any points of agreement to build a rapport.
- Offering the pupil a face-saving route out of confrontation, e.g. that if they stop the behaviour, then the consequences will be lessened.
- Rephrasing requests made up of negative words with positive phrases, e.g. "if you don't return to your seat, I won't help you with your work" becomes "if you return to your seat, I can help you with your work".
- Gaining the support of a Learning Mentor to help the child to understand what is happening and how they can regain some control.
- 'tag teaming' each other so that no individual member of staff is dealing with a prolonged or repetitive situation

Physical intervention

In line with the school's Positive Handling Policy, trained members of staff have the legal right to use reasonable force to prevent pupils from committing an offence, injuring themselves or others, or damaging school property, and to maintain good order and discipline in the classroom and around the school.

Physical restraint will only be used as a last resort and as a method of restraint. Staff members will use their professional judgement of the incident to decide whether physical intervention is necessary. The situations in which physical restraint may be appropriate are detailed in the Positive Handling Policy.

Wherever possible, staff will ensure that a second member of staff is present to witness the physical intervention used. After an instance of physical intervention, the pupil will be immediately taken to the headteacher and the pupil's parent will be contacted – parents may be asked to come to school to support staff.

Any violent or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated by the school and may result in a fixed-term exclusion in the first instance. It is at the discretion of the headteacher as to what behaviour constitutes for an exclusion.

When using reasonable force in response to risks presented by incidents involving pupils with SEND or medical conditions, the school will recognise and consider the vulnerability of these groups.

Behaviour Recovery rooms

The school may decide to move pupils to a separate room away from other pupils for a limited period – these are known as Behaviour Recovery rooms. In practice they are simply a desk in a safe space within a leader's office.

The school will only move pupils to Behaviour Recovery rooms where absolutely necessary. The school will ensure that pupils' health and safety is not compromised during their time in the Behaviour Recovery room, and that any additional requirements, such as SEND needs, are met.

The amount of time that a pupil spends in the Behaviour Recovery room will be up to the school to decide. This could be for a short amount of time or more than one school day. The school will ensure that the pupil is not in Behaviour Recovery any longer than necessary.

The staff member in charge and supervising the pupil will decide what the pupil may and may not do. The headteacher will request that the pupil's class teachers set them appropriate work to complete.

Pupils are permitted to eat during the allocated times of the school day and may use the toilet as required, they will be supervised, by the member of staff supporting them, to have some fresh air outside.

6. Sexual abuse and discrimination

The school prohibits all forms of sexual abuse and discrimination, including sexual harassment, gender-based bullying and sexual violence. The school's procedures for handling peer-on-peer sexual abuse and discrimination are detailed in the Peer-on-Peer Abuse Policy.

The school will respond promptly and appropriately to any sexual harassment complaints in line with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy; appropriate steps will be taken to stop the harassment and prevent any reoccurrence. Discipline for incidents of sexual harassment will be determined based on the nature of the case, the ages of those involved and any previous related incidents.

7. Smoking and controlled substances

The school will follow the procedures outlined in its Smoke-Free Policy and Pupil Drug and Alcohol Policy when managing behaviour in regard to smoking, vaping and nicotine products, legal and illegal drugs, and alcohol.

In accordance with part 1 of the Health Act 2006, this school is a smoke-free environment. Parents, visitors, staff and pupils are instructed not to smoke on school grounds. Pupils are not permitted to bring smoking materials or nicotine products to school.

The school has a zero-tolerance policy on illegal drugs, legal highs and other controlled substances. Where incidents with pupils related to controlled substances occur, the school

will follow the procedures outlined in the Pupil Drug and Alcohol Policy and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

8. Prohibited items, searching pupils and confiscation

Headteachers and 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. The prohibited items are:

- Knives or weapons.
- Alcohol.
- Illegal drugs.
- Stolen items.
- Tobacco, vapes 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 any person, including the pupil themselves; or
 - To damage the property of any person, including the pupil themselves.

All members of staff can use their power to search without consent for any of the items listed above. Staff will follow the provisions outlined in the school's Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy when conducting searches and confiscating items.

The headteacher and other authorised members of staff are permitted to use reasonable force when conducting a search without consent for certain prohibited items, in line with the school's Positive Handling Policy.

9. Effective classroom management

Well-managed classrooms are paramount to preventing disruptive and unacceptable behaviour. The school understands that effective classroom management allows staff to:

- Start the year with clear sets of rules and routines that are understood by all pupils.
- Establish agreed rewards and positive reinforcements.
- Establish sanctions for misbehaviour.
- Establish clear responses for handling behavioural problems.
- Encourage respect and development of positive relationships.
- Make effective use of the physical space available.
- Have well-planned lessons with a range of activities to keep pupils stimulated.

Subject to reasonable adjustments, e.g. those made for pupils whose SEND may affect their behaviour, pupils will be expected to follow the school Pupil Code of Conduct, which requires pupils to:

Classroom rules and routines

- Attend school every day unless I am ill.

- Arrive to lessons on time and fully prepared.
- Wear my correct uniform with pride.
- Do all classwork and homework as well as I can, asking questions when I don't understand.
- Read daily at home.
- Follow reasonable instructions given by staff.
- Be polite and respectful towards others and behave in a safe and responsible way.
- Be kind, helpful, honest and forgiving.
- Tell an adult if I have any worries.
- Show respect for their own and school property.
- Use the internet safely as I have been taught in class.

The school has an established set of clear, comprehensive and enforceable classroom rules which define what is acceptable behaviour and what the consequences are if rules are not adhered to. Attention is given to how rules are worded, such as the use of positive language rather than negative, e.g. “act respectfully towards your peers and teachers”, rather than “do not act disrespectfully towards your peers and teachers”.

The school also has an established set of classroom routines to help pupils work well, in the understanding that behavioural problems can arise due to the lack of a consistent routine. This includes teachers ensuring that before lessons begin, they have the full attention of all pupils, then explaining the task clearly so all pupils understand what they are supposed to be doing.

The headteacher ensures all teachers understand classroom rules and routines and how to enforce them, including any sanctions for not following the rules.

Teachers support pupils to understand and follow classroom rules and routines. Teachers inform pupils of classroom rules and routines at the beginning of the academic year and revisit these daily. Where appropriate, teachers explain the rationale behind the rules and routines to help pupils understand why they are needed, and will model rules and routines to ensure pupils understand them. Teachers also explain clearly to pupils what will happen if they breach any classroom rules to ensure pupils are aware of the sanctions that may be imposed.

To support pupils' continued awareness and understanding of classroom rules and routines, teachers reinforce them in a range of ways, e.g. placing posters of the rules on classroom walls and providing regular verbal reminders of the routines. Teachers also ensure that classroom rules and routines remain consistent and are practised throughout the year to create a more productive and enjoyable environment.

At the beginning of the school year, once the classroom rules have been devised, pupils are provided with a Classroom Rules Agreement which they are required to read and sign. All rules outlined in the Classroom Rules Agreement are applicable to pupils' behaviour elsewhere on the school premises and outside of the school – teachers will ensure that pupils understand this.

For younger pupils, parents will read the Classroom Rules Agreement with their child and sign it on their behalf.

The classroom environment

The school understands that a well-structured classroom environment is paramount to preventing poor behaviour. This includes the teacher positioning themselves effectively within the classroom, e.g. wherever possible, teachers avoid standing with their backs to pupils and ensure they have full view of the room at all times.

Teachers employ strategic seating arrangements to prevent poor behaviour and enable it to be noticed early, such as:

- Seating those who frequently model poor behaviour closest to, and facing, the teacher.
- Seating those who frequently model poor behaviour away from each other.
- Ensuring the teacher can see pupils' faces, that pupils can see one another, and that they can see the board.
- Ensuring the teacher can move around the room so that behaviour can be monitored effectively.

Praise and rewards

The school recognises that praise is key to making pupils feel valued and ensuring that their work and efforts are celebrated. When giving praise, teachers ensure:

- They define the behaviour that is being rewarded.
- The praise is given immediately following the desired behaviour.
- The way in which the praise is given is varied.
- Praise is related to effort, rather than only to work produced.
- Perseverance and independence are encouraged.
- Praise is only given when a pupil's efforts, work or behaviour need to be recognised, rather than continuously without reason.
- The praise given is always sincere and is not followed with immediate criticism.

Whilst it is important to receive praise from teachers, the school understands that peer praise is also effective for creating a positive, fun and supportive environment. Teachers encourage pupils to praise one another, and praise another pupil to the teacher, if they see them modelling good behaviour.

As with praise, the school understands that providing rewards after certain behaviour means that pupils are more likely to model the same behaviour again. For rewards to be effective, the school recognises that they need to be:

- **Immediate** – immediately rewarded following good behaviour.
- **Consistent** – consistently rewarded to maintain the behaviour.
- **Achievable** – keeping rewards achievable to maintain attention and motivation.
- **Fair** – making sure all pupils are fairly rewarded.

Rewards and HT Halos

Alongside weekly reading rewards and praise certificates, pupils will have the opportunity to earn Holy Trinity currency – HT Halos. Halos will be awarded to pupils who demonstrate identified learning behaviours and / or Christian values. Halos can then be used to buy a variety of rewards from the 'Halo Exchange'. Pupils who demonstrate exceptional behaviour

(receiving no yellow or red cards throughout a whole term) will be awarded Bonus Halos at the end of each term.

In order for the rewards used in school to remain effective they will be reviewed on an annual basis in conjunction with the school council.

10. Behaviour off school premises

Pupils at the school must agree to represent the school in a positive manner. The guidance laid out in the Pupil Code of Conduct applies both inside school and out in the wider community, particularly if the pupil is dressed in school uniform.

Staff can discipline pupils for misbehaviour outside of the school premises when the pupil is:

- Wearing school uniform.
- Travelling to or from school.
- Taking part in any school-related activity.
- In any way identifiable as being a pupil at the school.

Staff may also discipline pupils for misbehaviour off the school premises that, irrespective of the above:

- Could negatively affect the reputation of the school.
- Could pose a threat to another pupil, a member of staff at the school, or a member of the public.
- Could disrupt the orderly running of the school.

Any bullying witnessed outside of the school premises and reported to a member of staff, will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Anti-Bullying Policy: Pupils.

The school will impose the same sanctions for bullying incidents and non-criminal misbehaviour witnessed outside of the school premises as would be imposed for the same behaviour conducted on school premises. In all cases of unacceptable behaviour outside of the school premises, staff will only impose sanctions once the pupil has returned to the school premises or when under the supervision of a member of staff.

Complaints from members of the public about the behaviour of pupils from the school are taken very seriously and will be dealt with in accordance with the Complaints Procedures Policy.

11. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed by the headteacher and mental health lead on an annual basis; they will make any necessary changes and communicate these to all members of staff.

This policy will be made available for Ofsted inspections and reviews by the lead inspector, upon request.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is April 2027.