



St Patrick's RC High School Governors' Statement on Behaviour Principles

School Mission Statement

Our outstanding school community is guided by the gospel values of: love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice, integrity, humility and truth. Faith and worship are lived, taught and celebrated. We recognise the importance of service to others and the opportunity to be witnesses to Christ in our community.

All are unique and strive for personal growth. We celebrate the pursuit of academic excellence, applaud ambition and value the achievements of all. Our pupils are expected to achieve their best and use their learning to make a difference in the world they live in.

Rationale

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires Governors to agree, and regularly review a written statement of general principles to guide the Headteacher in determining measures to promote good behaviour. Practical applications of these principles are the responsibility of the Headteacher.

This statement has been adopted by the Full Governing Board, following consultation with the Headteacher and staff at the school. Pupils, parents and carers are made aware of these principles during the school's New Intake evening prior to Year 7 pupils' admission the school. Parents and pupils who join the school mid-year are also made aware of these principles during induction interviews. Other stakeholders and the local community are also made aware of these principles via publication on our school website.

At St Patrick's RC High School we value everyone as an individual, capable of growth, change and development. Our mission statement guarantees that we work unstintingly with pupils to help them achieve their absolute best in terms of academic outcomes and future opportunities. Staff continually work closely with pupils and their parents /carers to develop pupils' overall social and emotional capacity. Unacceptable behaviour is always challenged in an appropriate and systematic way.

Our relationships are underpinned by the principles of, our Catholic ethos, British values, equality, mutual respect, fairness and consistency. We have high expectations that support the development of our young people as effective and responsible citizens.

The purpose of the Behaviour for Learning and Anti-Bullying Policy is to encourage the best possible behaviour from all of our young people and we endeavour to work alongside pupils and parents/carers to plan individual approaches to maintain positive conduct.

Our priority is to encourage positive behaviour by:

- Providing a relevant and appropriate curriculum which is tailored to meet the individual needs and preferred learning styles of the pupil
- Teaching pupils the skills required to moderate and temper inappropriate behaviours
- Helping pupils to take responsibility for their own actions and develop a level of accountability
- Providing an environment where social and collective norms are the accepted benchmark
- Dealing with unacceptable behaviour promptly and fairly with minimum fuss and in a consistent and logical manner
- Promoting a consistent approach to sanctions from all staff
- Working closely with families and their children to develop healthier communication strategies which foster improved relationships

The Governors expect any policy or actions to be in accordance with their responsibilities under equality legislation as per the Equalities Act (2010).

The purpose of a sanction is:

- to promote positive behaviour that enables all pupils to learn and make progress
- to demonstrate that unacceptable levels of poor behaviour will be appropriately and sensitively challenged
- to express the disapproval of the school
- to discourage other pupils from similar behaviour.

St Patrick's uses praise, encouragement and incentives to encourage positive behaviour and to provide opportunities for recognition and celebration of pupils' successes and/or efforts.

It is recognised that the application of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and the individual pupil. The Headteacher and staff are expected to use appropriate discretion in their use. Sanctions should however be applied fairly, consistently, proportionately and reasonably, taking into account special educational needs, disability and the needs of vulnerable children, and offering support as necessary.

Modification of unacceptable behaviour at St Patrick's is underpinned by consistency and diligence by all staff. The maintenance and impact of the system depends on all staff following guidelines as conveyed in the Behaviour for Learning and Anti-Bullying Policy.

The Governors wish to emphasise that violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by pupils will not be tolerated. Staff have the power to use reasonable force in situations to:

- prevent pupils from hurting themselves or others, from damaging property, or from causing disruption or disorder
- prevent a pupil from attacking a member of staff or another pupil, or to stop a fight on or around the school premises
- restrain a pupil at risk of self-harm through physical outburst or absconding

In addition to the power to use reasonable force as described above, the Headteacher and authorised staff can use such force as is reasonable given the circumstances to conduct a search for the following prohibited items (section 550ZB(5) Education Act 1996) including:

- knives and weapons
- alcohol
- illegal drugs
- stolen items
- tobacco and cigarette papers
- dangerous substances
- fireworks
- pornographic images
- any article that has been or is likely to be used to commit an offence, cause personal injury or damage to property

Force **cannot** be used to search for items purely banned under the school rules.

Violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by parents/carers towards the school's staff will not be tolerated. If a parent does not conduct himself/herself properly, the Headteacher may ban them from the school premises and, if the parent/carer continues to cause nuisance or disturbance, he or she may be liable to prosecution.

The effectiveness of this statement in guiding the Headteacher is kept under review by the Full Governing Board, with a formal review and re-adoption every three years. Any substantial changes to the content of this statement will be consulted upon accordingly.

Date of Adoption: 11th May 2017

Date of Next Formal Review: Summer Term 2020

Signed: (Chair)