

Cowling Community Primary School

Behaviour and Discipline Policy

“Cowling Community Primary School promotes the safeguarding and welfare of children in its care; all policies support the “Child Protection Policy.”

1 Aims and expectations

- 1.1** It is a primary aim of Cowling that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The school behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.
- 1.2** The school has a number of school rules, but the primary aim of the behaviour policy is not a system to enforce rules. It is a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. This policy supports the school community in aiming to allow everyone to work together in an effective and considerate way.
- 1.3** Cowling expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others.
- 1.4** We treat all children fairly and apply this behaviour policy in a consistent way.
- 1.5** This policy aims to help children to grow in a safe and secure environment, and to become positive, responsible and increasingly independent members of the school community.
- 1.6** The school rewards good behaviour, as it believes that this will develop an ethos of kindness and co-operation. This policy is designed to promote good behaviour, rather than merely deter anti-social behaviour.

2 Rewards and punishments

2.1 We praise and reward children for good behaviour in a variety of ways:

- teachers congratulate children;
- teachers give children team points;
- each week we nominate two children from each class to be “pupils of the week”, who receive a certificate in the school assembly;
- we distribute stickers to children either for consistent good work or behaviour, or to acknowledge outstanding effort or acts of kindness in school;
- On Fridays we hold our “celebration assembly”, where we all celebrate any achievements made the previous week..
- Playtime buddies

2.2 The school acknowledges all the efforts and achievements of children, both in and out of school.

2.3 All school staff have statutory and delegated authority to discipline pupils whose behaviour is unacceptable, who break the school rules or who fail to follow a reasonable instruction (section 90 and 91 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006) and are expected to do so in all circumstances. This authority applies at any time the pupil is in school or elsewhere under the charge of a teacher, including on school visits. This authority applies outside of the school premises when a student is in uniform or is travelling to and from school.

Cowling employs a number of sanctions to enforce the school rules, and to ensure a safe and positive learning environment. We employ each sanction appropriately to each individual situation.

- We expect children to listen carefully to instructions in lessons. If they do not do so, we ask them either to move to a place nearer the teacher, or to sit on their own.
- We expect children to try their best in all activities. If they do not do so, we may ask them to redo a task.
- If a child is disruptive in class, the teacher reprimands him or her. If a child misbehaves repeatedly, we isolate the child from the rest of the class until s/he calms down, and is in a position to work sensibly again with others.
- The safety of the children is paramount in all situations. If a child’s behaviour endangers the safety of others, the class teacher stops the activity and prevents the child from taking part for the rest of that session.

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- If a child threatens, hurts or bullies another pupil, the class teacher records the incident and the child is punished. If a child repeatedly acts in a way that disrupts or upsets others, the school contacts the child's parents and seeks an appointment in order to discuss the situation, with a view to improving the behaviour of the child.
- All children are expected to comply with the school uniform policy.
- Have proper regard for the authority of teachers and other adults.
- Treat the values of others with respect.

2.4 The class teacher discusses the school rules with each class. In addition to the school rules, each class also has its own classroom code, which is agreed by the children. In this way, every child in the school knows the standard of behaviour that we expect in our school. If there are incidents of anti-social behaviour, the class teacher discusses these with the whole class during 'circle time'. Traffic lights systems may be used in class to encourage children to think about their behaviour and to make the correct choices. ?

All children begin every day on the green circle.

Low level disruptive behaviour: the child's name is moved to amber. With good work and behaviour the child can return to the green circle and is praised for having made the correct choice.

Red: Serious behaviour issue. Headteacher/SLT is informed. Class teacher speaks to parents/carers at the end of the day ideally in person and if that is not possible on the phone. Parents/carers are asked to discuss the child's behaviour with them at home.

Additional sanctions:

Pupils who regularly have poor behaviour receive a behaviour log which is kept and maintained by the classteacher and is shared with parents. For pupils with serious behaviour issues the log may be kept by the headteacher.

2.5 Bullying: We are a telling school. We annually support anti-bullying week in school. Bullying is the persistent desire to hurt others and can be verbal, mental or physical. At Cowling we are keen to identify the early signs of bullying and children are encouraged to tell a teacher, parent or friend. All incidents of bullying are treated seriously and the appropriate action taken to deal with the bully and help the victim.

The school does not tolerate bullying of any kind. If we discover that an act of bullying or intimidation has taken place, we act immediately to stop any further occurrences of such behaviour. While it is very difficult to eradicate bullying, we do everything in our power to ensure that all children attend school free from fear.

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- 2.6** All members of staff are aware of the regulations regarding the use of force by teachers, as set out in DfEE Circular 10/98, relating to section 550A of the Education Act 1996: *The Use of Force to Control or Restrain Pupils*. Teachers at Cowling do not hit, push or slap children. Staff only intervene physically to restrain children or to prevent injury to a child, or if a child is in danger of hurting him/herself. The actions that we take are in line with government guidelines on the restraint of children.

3 The role of the class teacher

- 3.1** It is the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure that the school rules are enforced in their class, and that their class behaves in a responsible manner during lesson time.
- 3.2** The class teachers at Cowling have high expectations of the children in terms of behaviour, and they strive to ensure that all children work to the best of their ability.
- 3.3** The class teacher treats each child fairly and enforces the classroom code consistently. The teacher treats all children in their class with respect and understanding.
- 3.4** If a child misbehaves repeatedly in class, the class teacher keeps a record of all such incidents. In the first instance, the class teacher deals with incidents him/herself in the normal manner. However, if misbehaviour continues, the class teacher seeks help and advice from the headteacher or other member of the senior leadership team. See Behaviour for Learning Matrix.
- 3.5** The class teacher liaises with external agencies, as necessary, to support and guide the progress of each child. The class teacher may, for example, discuss the needs of a child with the education social worker or LEA behaviour support service.
- 3.6** The class teacher reports to parents about the progress of each child in their class, in line with the whole-school policy. The class teacher may also contact a parent if there are concerns about the behaviour or welfare of a child.

4 The role of the headteacher

- 4.1** It is the responsibility of the headteacher, under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, to implement the school behaviour policy consistently throughout the school, and to report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy. It is also the responsibility of the headteacher to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all children in the school.
- 4.2** The headteacher supports the staff by implementing the policy, by setting the standards of behaviour, and by supporting staff in the implementation of the policy.
- 4.3** The headteacher keeps records of all reported serious incidents of misbehaviour.
- 4.4** The headteacher has the responsibility for giving fixed-term suspensions to individual children for serious acts of misbehaviour. For repeated or very serious acts of anti-social behaviour, the headteacher may permanently exclude a child. Both these actions are only taken after the school governors have been notified.

5 The role of parents

- 5.1** Cowling works collaboratively with parents, so children receive consistent messages about how to behave at home and at school.
- 5.2** We expect parents to support their child's learning, and to co-operate with the school, as set out in the home-school agreement. We try to build a supportive dialogue between the home and the school, and we inform parents immediately if we have concerns about their child's welfare or behaviour.
- 5.3** If the school has to use reasonable sanctions to punish a child, parents should support the actions of the school. If parents have any concern about the way that their child has been treated, they should initially contact the class teacher. If the concern remains, they should contact the school governors. If these discussions cannot resolve the problem, a formal grievance or appeal process can be implemented.

6 The role of governors

- 6.1** The governing body has the responsibility of setting down these general guidelines on standards of discipline and behaviour, and of reviewing their effectiveness. The governors support the headteacher in carrying out these guidelines.
- 6.2** The headteacher has the day-to-day authority to implement the school behaviour and discipline policy, but governors may give advice to the headteacher about particular disciplinary issues. The headteacher must take this into account when making decisions about matters of behaviour.

7 Fixed-term and permanent exclusions

- 7.1** Only the headteacher has the power to exclude a pupil from school. The headteacher may exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods, for up to 45 days in any one school year. The headteacher may also exclude a pupil permanently. It is also possible for the headteacher to convert a fixed-term exclusion into a permanent exclusion, if the circumstances warrant this.
- 7.2** If the headteacher excludes a pupil he informs the parents immediately, giving reasons for the exclusion. At the same time, the headteacher makes it clear to the parents that they can, if they wish, appeal against the decision to the governing body. The school informs the parents how to make any such appeal.
- 7.3** The headteacher informs the LA and the governing body about any permanent exclusion, and about any fixed-term exclusions beyond five days in any one term.
- 7.4** The governing body itself cannot either exclude a pupil or extend the exclusion period made by the headteacher.
- 7.5** The governing body has a discipline committee which is made up of three members. This committee considers any exclusion appeals on behalf of the governors.

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7.6 When an appeals panel meets to consider an exclusion, they consider the circumstances in which the pupil was excluded, consider any representation by parents and the LA, and consider whether the pupil should be reinstated.

7.7 If the governors' appeals panel decides that a pupil should be reinstated, the headteacher must comply with this ruling.

8 Monitoring

8.1 The headteacher monitors the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis. He also reports to the governing body on the effectiveness of the policy and, if necessary, makes recommendations for further improvements.

8.2 The school keeps a variety of records of incidents of misbehaviour. The class teacher records minor classroom incidents. The headteacher records those incidents where a child is sent to him on account of bad behaviour.

8.3 The headteacher keeps a record of any pupil who is suspended for a fixed-term, or who is permanently excluded.

8.4 It is the responsibility of the governing body to monitor the rate of suspensions and exclusions, and to ensure that the school policy is administered fairly and consistently.

9 Review

9.1 The governing body reviews this policy every three years. They governors may, however, review the policy earlier than this, if the government introduces new regulations, or if the governing body receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.

Headteacher

To review Autumn 2022