

Cloughside College Governing Body Statement of Behaviour Principles



“Inspiring all young people to achieve
a brighter future....”

Reviewed 01.05.23 by D King

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Purpose

The purpose of this statement from the Governing Body is to provide guidance for the Headteacher in drawing up the school's behaviour policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of governors, staff and parents of the learners in school as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters.

It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of discipline and sanctions and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they have the Governors' support when following this guidance.

The below, **is a statement of principles, not practice**. It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to draw up the school's behaviour policy, though they must take these principles into account when formulating this. The Headteacher is also asked to consider the guidance in the DFE publication 'Behaviour and Discipline in Schools', "a guide for Headteachers and Staff".

The school behaviour policy must be publicised in writing to staff, parents/carers and learners at least once a year.

Guidelines

- The Governors of Cloughside College believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school that:
 - a) Enables all its learners to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school life and work.
 - b) All staff to be able to teach and promote good learning without undue interruption or harassment.
- All learners and staff have the right to feel safe at all times in school. There should be mutual respect between staff and learners; and between each other.
- All visitors to the school should feel safe and free from the effects of poor behaviour at all times and in all parts of the school.
- Cloughside College is an inclusive school and all members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort (as laid out in the Equality Act 2010). To this end, the school must have a clear and comprehensive Anti-Bullying Policy; that is known and understood by all, consistently applied, monitored and where appropriate have incidents recorded. Measures to protect learners from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.

- The school's legal duties under the Equality Act in respect of safeguarding learners with Special Educational Needs and all vulnerable learners should be set out in the Behaviour Policy and made known to all staff.
- Parents/carers should be encouraged and helped to support their children's education, just as the learners should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time at school. The responsibilities of learners, parents/carers and all school staff with respect to learners' behaviour must be outlined in the Home School Agreement which learners, parents/carers and teachers must be asked to sign when a pupil joins the school.
- The school rules should be clearly stated in the Behaviour Policy. These should set out expected standards of behaviour, should be displayed in all classrooms/relevant parts of the school and should be shared and explained to learners. The Governors expect the rules to be consistently applied by all staff and regularly monitored for their effectiveness.
- Governors would like to see a wide range of rewards being consistently and fairly applied in such a way as to encourage and reward good behaviour. This will be made clear in the Behaviour Policy and regularly monitored for consistent and fair application.
- Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and learners with consistency applied. The full range of sanctions will be described in the Behaviour Policy so that learners, staff and parents/carers understand how and when they will be applied.
- Exclusions are not used by this school.
- The searching and screening of students is not used by this school. Any concerns about contraband items will be shared with the MDT. Any searches will be undertaken by qualified NHS staff.
- The Head teacher may inform the police as appropriate, if there is evidence of a criminal act or if they feel that one may take place.
- The Behaviour Policy should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against learners who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff. Governors expect the Headteacher to draw on the advice in Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and other staff guidance documents when setting out the pastoral support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers. Staff accused, should not automatically be suspended pending investigation.
- The Governors expect the Headteacher to include the following in some detail in the Behaviour Policy:
 - a) **The power to use reasonable force or make other physical contact.** The situations in which reasonable force may be used (including removing disruptive pupils from classrooms or preventing them from leaving) should be stated. A definition of reasonable force should be included, which would also explain how and when learners may be restrained. Governors would expect all staff to receive CPD on what reasonable force is and where it may be appropriate to use it.
 - b) **The power to discipline outside the school gates.** Disciplining beyond the school gates covers the school's response to all non-criminal bad behaviour and bullying

that occurs anywhere off the school premises. Due to the nature of our setting any action taken by the College will be discussed with Health staff by the Unit Leader.

c) Where it may be appropriate to use a breakaway technique

- The Governors must be satisfied in all situations arising, that the measures proposed by the Headteacher are lawful and that staff and learners know that sanctions can be applied in these circumstances.

Conclusion

The aforementioned points although not exhaustive, have been set out as guide by the Governors to support the Headteacher in compiling a behavioural policy that supports the mission, vision and values of Cloughside College.

The statement will be reviewed annually in line with existing college policies; allowing appropriate guidance and support to be provided ensuring that the learners' experience is as positive as possible during their time at college.