

St. Faith's Primary School
Governors' Statement of General Principles for a Behaviour Policy

Good behaviour should be promoted through the development of a positive environment and Christian ethos, together with high quality teaching and learning, and procedures which:

- encourage pupils to have respect for themselves, for their peers and for adults;
- encourage pupils to have a respect for the rights of others, including teachers;
- encourage pupils to have a respect for the property of others, including the school;
- encourage pupils to be accountable for their own behaviour;
- encourage self-discipline and self-control;
- strongly discourage aggressive behaviour of all kinds;
- place importance on reinforcing positive behaviour more than punishing misbehaviour;
- increase and widen pupils' sense of belonging in the school community;
- ensure fair and honest treatment and place an emphasis on attempts to identify and address causes for mis-behaviour rather than just treating symptoms;
- encourage the partnership between school and home through the early involvement of parents of a pupil who is persistently difficult.

The general principles may be summarised as:

respect for people, respect for property and respect for the school.

Items which are illegal or considered dangerous are not allowed in school and will be removed from any pupil bringing such items to school. Exclusion from school is regarded as a last resort and will be avoided as far as possible. It may be used in response to a single extreme incident or after a long series of serious misdemeanours. LA guidance will be followed in such cases including writing a behaviour management plan for any pupil at risk of exclusion. Parents will be informed and involved in the preparation of the plan. If exclusion becomes necessary the statutory exclusion procedures will be followed and parents will be informed of their right of appeal.

School statement on the use of powers of searching pupils and the reasonable use of force

Searching Pupils:

School staff may search pupils with their permission for any item that is banned by the school rules.

The Headteacher, and staff authorised by the Headteacher, have the power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they suspect the pupil has illegal, dangerous or stolen items.

Use of reasonable force:

All school staff have the power to use reasonable force to prevent pupils committing an offence, injuring themselves or others, or damaging property, and to maintain good order and discipline in the classroom.

The headteacher should be informed of any incident that has led to the use of these powers, which will be recorded.