



Leverstock Green CE (VC) Primary School

Striving for excellence; caring for the individual.

BEHAVIOUR PRINCIPLES STATEMENT

At Leverstock Green School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at, our school. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

The purpose of this statement is to give guidance to the Headteacher in drawing up the behaviour and discipline policy by stating the principles which governors expect to be followed. The policy aims to underpin the governors' duty of care to pupils and employees; promote teaching and learning, high standards of attainment and preserve the reputation of the school. The statement is available upon request from the school and can be found on the school's web site. It is also held in the school office.

Our behaviour policy is founded on our three core Christian values: love, respect and forgiveness. Leverstock Green is a learning first community, and we believe that good behaviour underpins good learning, enables teachers to teach to a high standard and prepares children for life beyond primary school. Our behaviour policy should be known and understood by all members of our community and applied with consistency and fairness, regarding each individual situation.

We recognise that all children will make poor behaviour choices at some time, and this is a normal part of growing up and learning in a safe and supportive environment. Adults will seek to understand the causes of poor behaviour and support children to understand why it is wrong so they can learn from their mistakes. Every day is a new day, and children will be given the opportunity to start over. Parents/carers are expected to play an active role in supporting good behaviour and this is made clear in our Home School Agreement.

Everyone (adults and children) has the right to enjoy a safe environment. This includes being safe from physical and verbal assault. All children have a Right to Education free from disruptive behaviours. Everyone is responsible for their behaviour choices and adults have a particular responsibility for providing good role models and for setting high expectations for children.

Bullying in any form will not be tolerated and will be dealt with following our anti-bullying policy. We expect children to be taught about different forms of bullying, how to prevent it and how to resolve it. Where bullying is suspected, we expect parents/carers to play their part in resolving it.

Exclusions, either fixed term or permanent, may be considered when all other strategies have failed or in extreme circumstances. Only the Headteacher, or in her absence the Assistant Headteacher, has the power to exclude.

Given the importance of the safety of the school community, the Governing Body supports



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the right of the school to exclude for a single offence where it is considered that allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

School staff have the power in law to use reasonable force or make other physical contact. The force used must be reasonable in the circumstances and must be no more than necessary. The situations in which reasonable force may be used include preventing disruptive pupils from leaving for their own or others' safety, preventing one pupil from hurting another or a member of staff or preventing a pupil from harming themselves. Reference should be made to 'Use of Reasonable Force in Schools' published by the DfE. Situations in which other physical contact may be necessary include comforting children, teaching specific skills or giving first aid.

This is an inclusive school, and all members of the community should feel free from discrimination of any sort (as laid down in the Equality Act 2010.) We recognise that some children may find good behaviour more challenging; for example, those with special educational needs, those with mental health issues or those who have social difficulties outside of school. The school will seek to ensure that these pupils receive support appropriate to their need. However, when making decisions the school must balance the needs of the individual with those of the school community and where pupil behaviour places others at risk, the safety of the pupil body is paramount.

School staff can search a pupil if the pupil agrees. Staff have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions without consent if they have reasonable grounds to suspect any of the following items: knives or weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, stolen items, tobacco, fireworks, pornographic images and any other article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been or is likely to be used to commit an offence or cause injury or damage. Reference will be made to 'Screening, Searching and Confiscation' published by the DfE.

We expect the same high standards of behaviour at any school organised or school related activity, travelling to and from school or whilst in the wider community. We expect staff to act on any behaviour which brings the school into disrepute. Any non-criminal inappropriate behaviour witnessed by staff or reported to school will be dealt with according to our policy, usually in conjunction with parents/carers.

All allegations of abuse will be dealt with according to separate guidance, as laid down by Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB). Pupils found to have made malicious allegations will have breached our behaviour policy and appropriate sanctions applied.

References

Behaviour & Discipline in Schools: a guide for headteachers and school staff (DfE 2012)

Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Against Teachers and Other Staff: Guidance for local authorities, head teachers, school staff, governing bodies and proprietors of independent schools (DfE2012)

Ensuring Good Behaviour in Schools: A summary for head teachers, governing bodies, teachers, parents and pupils. (DfE 2012)



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Exclusion from Maintained Schools, Academies and Pupil Referral Units in England: A guide for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion. (DfE 2012)

73/22

Chair of Governors

12-2-25

Date

