Behaviour Policy

School

Approval Date:
Revision Date:

Introduction

At Ysgol Y Gelli, discipline is based on a behaviour strategy which promotes positive attitudes towards behaviour. The policy's success is based on praise and rewards. Children make choices about their own behaviour based on rules, rewards and consequences. Good behaviour is a vital part of school life as it permits and promotes learning and successful interpersonal relationships.

Unacceptable behaviour and breaches of discipline should not be allowed to interfere with the right of other children to learn and progress. Every member of staff, every pupil and every parent should be made aware of, be involved in, and be supportive of the School Behaviour and Discipline Policy in order for it to succeed. The help and support of parents is essential. All members of staff have a responsibility to maintain this policy at all times.

1. Aims

The aim of our behaviour and disciplinary policy is to:

- Make the school an interesting, enjoyable, safe, secure and caring environment for children's learning
- Provide structure in which children, adults and parents know what is expected of them and what strategies are provided to reward good behaviour and to deal with behaviour problems (or "adults and parents are aware of the expectations upon them, and of the structures that are provided for rewarding good behaviour and the **consequences** of unacceptable behaviour)
- Encourage all children to care and look after each other

We will work towards achieving these aims by:

- Developing and fostering mutual support between adults and children, children and children and adults and adults
- Building up self-esteem and self-worth by praising and rewarding good behaviour and by developing positive attitudes
- Providing effective discipline for effective learning
- Providing strategies to promote self-control and expecting children to take responsibility for their own actions and try to see the consequences of their actions.
- Providing help and support where it is needed for any child who finds difficulty in managing their own behaviour
- Taking account of any disabilities or emotional developmental delays of children or adults in the school.

2. Standards of Behaviour expected at Ysgol y Gelli

Children are expected:

- to show respect towards each other, staff and visitors
- to respect each other's property and take care of the school building and equipment
- to be well-behaved and attentive in class
- to walk (not run) when moving around the school
- to avoid violence and retaliation
- to use courteous and decent language
- not to bring sharp or dangerous instruments, electrical equipment, jewellery or toys to school

A departure from these standards of behaviour may be dealt with under this Policy as a breach of discipline.

3. Bullying

Bullying is a serious breach of the Standards of Behaviour and is a disciplinary offence. The school attaches particular importance to identifying and preventing bullying at school, dealing with it effectively if it occurs

and educating children that it will not be tolerated. The School therefore has a separate School Anti-Bullying Policy covering these issues.

4. Behaviour outside the School Context

Children's behaviour outside school on school business, such as school trips or sports fixtures, may be dealt with under this Policy as if it had taken place in school. (Children will be reminded that while wearing school uniform with school logo they are representing the school and should behave accordingly).

5. Staff Responsibility

It is important that all staff maintain the schools discipline message not only by what they say but also by what they do. Good behaviour and school discipline should be consistently promoted by:

- Accepting responsibility for pupil behaviour outside as well as inside the classroom and building
- Accepting responsibility for all pupils, not just those in their class
- Sharing problems and successful strategies for dealing with individuals
- Pursuing common standards of discipline
- Always informing the Class or Headteacher of incidents or problems with a child
- The Class Teacher or Headteacher keeping parents informed
- **Modelling** positive behaviour (e.g. emotional control, empathy etc.) and courteous and respectful communication

All staff actions, words and behaviours send out important signals. They speak louder than any rules, sanctions or rewards about what standards of discipline really are and what the ethos of the school is all about.

6. Pupil Participation

Pupils have opportunities to take part in Circle time throughout the school and also discussions during Personal and Social Education sessions ("PSE"). This means that children are able to discuss issues with their peers and an adult. It also gives the children opportunities to talk about their feelings. General issues of discipline and behaviour can be raised by children with the School Council and are drawn to the attention of staff and the Governing Body.

7. Parental Partnership

Co-operation and partnership with parents is essential for the success of this policy. All parents will be kept informed of any unacceptable behaviour on the part of their child. The first point of contact between parents and school should normally be the child's Class teacher. If unacceptable behaviour continues, parents will be invited to discuss issues with the Class Teacher and / or Headteacher. The Headteacher may wish to put in place or agree with parents a Behaviour Plan, Pastoral Support Plan or other strategies (e.g. a period working on personal behaviour targets or an opportunity to access suitable interventions within the school). In more serious cases, outside agencies may be contacted for support or advice and multi-agency meetings may be arranged as necessary.

8. Actions to Manage Behaviour and Discipline

At our school, we show children that we care enough to let them know that good behaviour is approved and rewarded, but also that other behaviour is unacceptable. We teach them that both good and unacceptable behaviour carries with it very real consequences. We make children aware of the Standards of Behaviour expected of them. In addition, within each class, children will have agreed classroom rules and will be aware of the consequences if they break them.

8.1 Positive Recognition and Reinforcement of Good Behaviour

Individual Positive recognition will include:

- Praise
- Stickers – stars at the end of the week during the children's assembly
- Positive communication with parents, notes etc.
- Special privileges
- Free choice
- Dojo Points / rewards

Children are often sent to the Headteacher or another Class Teacher in recognition of good behaviour or good work.

8.2 Praising Good Behaviour

We believe that praise and encouragement are the most powerful of all rewards. A child who feels valued by an adult in the community which they value will grow in self-confidence and in their will to achieve. The School operates a rewards scheme with categories of achievement at Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. For Key Stage 2 these categories are achievement outside the school day, academic achievement, sporting achievement, musical achievement, for politeness and manners and use of Welsh. Foundation Phase pupils have equivalent categories. Pupils are awarded stars for individual achievements.

The school will operate in accordance with Growth Mindset principles and will continue to praise pupils in appropriate situations, such as recognition in the school assembly, in school reports and newsletters to parents. The weekly assembly is devoted to celebrating the children's achievements. In addition to the stars, children may also be identified for commendation for their work, behaviour or achievements in other areas.

8.3 Responses to Unacceptable Behaviour

Procedure and Discretion
The appropriate disciplinary response to unacceptable behaviour will depend on many factors including the age of the children involved, their emotional development, past behaviour, relationships between children and (often) the need for a prompt response to the incident. The Class Teachers and the Headteacher therefore have wide discretion as to how to deal with any particular incident, but (both in establishing what happened and in deciding on consequences) they will always try to be fair both to the apparent offender and any others involved.

If the unacceptable behaviour is difficult and persistent, the school will produce an individual behaviour plan. This will be carefully planned to meet the pupil's behavioural needs and will include strategies to be followed by the pupil, parents and school staff.

8.4 Class Room Management

Teachers are responsible for drawing up classroom rules with their children. These rules will consist of 3 - 5 rules which children have decided are important in their classroom. These will be displayed prominently in the classroom. They will be reviewed each term. The rules will be displayed in the pupil's language and will note the **expected** behaviour e.g. "We speak politely"

Class Teacher – Consequences

Appropriate consequences of unacceptable behaviour (taking account of the emotional age and character of the child and the familiarity of the teacher) may be as follows:

6. Discussion with child about behaviour and time to reflect on it, including
7. " Time Out", if appropriate (see below)
8. Completion of a Behaviour Incident Form. This will be filed for future reference in the incident book
9. Verbal apology or completion of a written apology which the child will then hand to the person to whom they are apologising following a reconciliation discussion on the impact of the behaviour on the 'victim', and agreement on how to compensate for the behaviour
10. Losing all or part of a playtime and being set tasks in the time lost.

If these responses appear inadequate, the Class Teacher should refer the matter to the Headteacher.

8.5 Time Out

If an incident happens during a lesson (particularly with older children) the Class teacher may decide that a child needs to be given "Time Out". This will involve the child being sent to a quiet corner/space to sit, away from other children, so that they have time to think, reflect or calm down. When they feel ready, they return to their own class where they are expected to apologise to their Class Teacher, and to another child if appropriate.

9. Headteacher - Consequences

In the event of significant or persistent unacceptable behaviour, the Headteacher will deal with the matter. A Class teacher may decide to refer a child to the Headteacher at any stage. Children should normally only be sent to the Headteacher when strategies outlined above have been tried but behaviour is not improving or when the matter is serious enough to warrant the Headteacher's immediate attention.

The Headteacher has wide discretion in deciding on appropriate action. Examples of the consequences of a referral to the Headteacher are as follows:

1. Meeting with Class Teacher and child to discuss the problems with behaviour to date
2. Time for the child to reflect on behaviour and to discuss with the Headteacher any situations with which the school could become involved
3. Letter to parents explaining the situation and a warning from the Headteacher to the child about the next stage of consequences if behaviour does not improve
4. Letter to and meeting with parents in school to discuss the situation with their child and agree on a way forward
5. Set up an Individual Behaviour Management / Pastoral Support Plan
6. Contact external agencies when appropriate
7. Fixed Term or Permanent Exclusion.

9.1 Loss of Privileges

The Class Teacher or Headteacher may decide that a child should lose the whole or part of playtime as a consequence of unacceptable behaviour and be set some tasks during time lost.

The Headteacher may decide that a child should lose other privileges as a consequence of unacceptable behaviour. By way of example, a child may be refused permission to go on a school trip or to a school club after being aggressive in the playground, or a child may be required (with parents agreement) to go home for dinner as a consequence of bad behaviour during dinner breaks.

9.2 Exclusions

Fixed or permanent exclusion is an extreme consequence of bad behaviour and is usually (although not always) imposed when other strategies have been exhausted. It is expected to be rare at our school. In considering exclusion, the Headteacher will follow the Welsh Assembly Government Guidance.

A child is at risk of exclusion from our school for serious misconduct causing the Headteacher to believe that allowing the child to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the child or others in the school.

Examples of behaviour for which (depending on the circumstances) a child might be excluded:

- An act of violence or repeated aggressive behaviour towards peer groups and / or staff
- Calculated bullying
- Persistent use of bad language / verbal abuse
- Inappropriate sexualised behaviour
- Repeated verbal or other harassment because of race, colour, ethnic origin or disability
- Leaving school without permission
- Possession of illegal drugs
- Repeated disruptive behaviour in the classroom or during lessons in the hall or in the playground
- Disregard for instructions which cause danger to others

Fixed term exclusions will normally be for 1 – 5 days depending on the seriousness of the incident and the child's previous disciplinary record. A child may be permanently excluded for one very serious breach of discipline even if their record is good and there have been no previous fixed-term exclusions. Examples of "one-off" unacceptable behaviour justifying such strong action include serious violence, supplying illegal drugs at school or threatening the use of a weapon.

10 Special Needs and Disability

The Class Teacher or Headteacher will take account of any recognised disability or additional learning needs of a child when disciplinary action is taken. The school intends that all children with significant behavioural difficulties will be considered for Additional Learning Needs with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and / or Pastoral Support Plan (PSP). Implementation of any IEP or PSP will be monitored by the Special Educational Needs Coordinator and the Class Teacher. All other staff involved (Learning Support Assistants, Dinner Supervisors etc.) will be informed of the targets set and the strategies employed to encourage the individual's emotional and behavioural development. If behaviour does not improve, consideration will be given to progressing to School Action Plus and involving outside agencies.

11. Specific Situations

11.1 Playground

The playground rules are:

1. We show respect for people, property and the environment
2. We look after each other and play safely
3. We are always polite, kind and friendly
4. We say sorry if we hurt or bump into anyone by accident
5. We follow instructions straight away
6. We line up as we are expected to, as soon as we hear the bell

Typical Rewards

- Use of playground equipment
- Dojo points

Typical Consequences for Unacceptable Behaviour

- Time out on playground
- Miss a playtime (sit/work in building)

11.2 Wet Playtimes/Indoor Play

There will be times when children are unable to go onto the playground because of the weather. During these times:

- Children must stay in their own classroom or in the hall
- They must not run around or display unacceptable behaviour
- They should not use scissors unsupervised
- Class teachers will make available quiet games, scrap paper and crayons etc., comics/books to read
- Classroom rules still apply
- There is one adult on duty between two classrooms

11.3 Entering and Leaving the Hall - Assembly

Children are expected to:

- Come in and go out quietly
- Listen and not distract others
- Put up their hands to answer questions
- Sit on the floor in a sensible and acceptable way

Typical Rewards:

- Praise, either individually, as a class or whole school
- Class Teacher Stars
- Headteacher stars

Typical Consequences of unacceptable Behaviour:

- Return to hall during playtimes and practice entering or leaving the hall as a whole class

11.4 After-school Clubs

We encourage children to take part in our after-school clubs, but they may be temporarily or permanently banned from a club for unacceptable behaviour at the club or in school generally.

11.5 Physical Education / Swimming

All children are expected to work sensibly during these lessons. They must listen carefully to teachers' instructions and act upon them. All safety rules must be adhered to at all times. If at any time a child cannot act responsibly, they may be excluded from PE or swimming lesson.

11.6 School Trips

Before the trip, class teachers will discuss with their classes what is expected of them in terms of behaviour and organisation. They will also remind children to be polite and to promote the good name of the school in the community. Where behaviour is not acceptable or causes concern that a child's safety would be compromised on a school trip, then typical consequences would be:

- Parents will be notified
- A letter of apology to the venue or leader to be written by the child
- The child may not be allowed to go on further trips in the future until behaviour improves.

11.7 Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Headteacher is responsible for monitoring and evaluating this Policy and reporting on it to the Governing Body annually.

Signed on behalf of the Chair of Governors: _____

Date: _____