



Behaviour Principles

The Avon Valley School's statement of Behaviour Principles is a written statement of general principles relating to behaviour and discipline, which takes into account the needs of all staff and students. The Governing body believes that high standards of behaviour are essential for a successful school and for achieving the school's vision. The Governors also believe that meeting high standards of behaviour during the school day will have a positive effect on the life of pupils outside of school, encouraging them to become valuable members of the community.

The purpose of this statement is to outline the expectations that lead to the development and implementation of the school's Behaviour Policy. The policy aims to underpin the school's duty of care to students and employees; promote teaching and learning and high standards of attainment, and preserve the reputation of the school.

The Avon Valley School's behaviour principles have the school ethos as their foundation:

At The Avon Valley School and Performing Arts College, we value each and every individual. We believe that everyone has the potential to succeed and is an untapped source of talent. It is our aim to unlock this potential through the provision of a first class education, creating life long learners.

Underpinning this aim is our desire for our students to enjoy their school days and be equipped with the skills and knowledge for life. We want our students to understand their rights and responsibilities and those of others and to be compassionate and caring members of society.

OUR PRINCIPLES

- To recognise that each individual within the school deserves to be valued equally.
- That all will actively promote equality irrespective of race, gender, age, sexuality, religion or disability.
- To provide a positive and supportive environment in which staff and students can maximise their skills and to support them in fulfilling their potential for the benefit of themselves and the wider community.
- To provide full opportunity for our staff and students to develop their individual talents and build a strong foundation for their future.
- To develop effective leadership throughout all levels of the staffing structure and to use this to create a successful teaching environment where the high expectations of students, staff and governors are met.
- That all members of our school community will feel safe and secure.
- To eliminate all forms of discrimination, harassment or bullying.
- That positive, strong relationships exist throughout the school, which lead to the mutual respect between all members of our community that encourages good behaviour.
- To enable leaders to lead, teachers to teach and students to learn.

OUR EXPECTATIONS

- All members of the school community, at all times, behave in a polite and considerate manner showing respect for themselves, each other and to the school itself.
- Students behave in a manner which supports their own learning, and that of other students, and does not jeopardise the health and safety of any member of the school community.
- Students and staff will not use offensive language, will adhere to the anti-bullying policy and will at all times promote tolerance and respect with regards to disability, age, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation and race.
- That the school's behaviour policy will be applied with consistency and fairness, with regard to each individual situation.
- That the emphasis will be on encouraging positive behaviour through high expectations; the modelling of good behaviour; a focus on learning; and praise and rewards.
- That sanctions, when necessary, will enable the student to reflect on, and learn from, their behaviour and to make reparation wherever possible.
- That each student receives behavioural support according to their need.
- That the focus on positive behaviour, forgiveness and reconciliation will significantly reduce the need for exclusion. However, when making decisions the Headteacher must balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider school community and where student behaviour places others at risk, the safety of the student body as a whole is paramount. Considering this, the Governing Body support the right of the Headteacher to exclude for a single offence, permanently if necessary, where it is considered that allowing the student to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of that student or others in the school.
- That given the overriding need to keep the students and staff safe, the Headteacher, or representative(s), will utilise their powers to search or use reasonable force in order to keep individuals from harming, or further harming, themselves or others.
- That given our duty of care to the students, this written statement and the policies that are influenced by it apply to all students when in school, when travelling to and from school, when engaged in extra-curricular activities such as educational trips and visits (residential and non-residential) and when being educated as a member of The Avon Valley School community off-site.

REFERENCES

Behaviour and discipline in schools: Advice for head teachers and school staff. DfE Jan 2016

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, DfE, 2012

Ensuring good behaviour in schools: a summary for head teachers, governing bodies, teachers, parents and pupils. DfE 2012