

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Sidlesham Primary School



Behaviour Policy and statement of behaviour

The little school where BIG things happen!

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Create a positive culture that promotes excellent behaviour, ensuring that all pupils have the opportunity to learn in a calm, safe and supportive environment
- Establish a whole-school approach to maintaining high standards of behaviour that reflect the values of the school
- Outline the expectations and consequences of behaviour
- Provide a consistent approach to behaviour management that is applied equally to all pupils
- Define what we consider to be unacceptable behaviour, including bullying and discrimination

2. Legislation, statutory requirements and statutory guidance

This policy is based on legislation and advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on:

- [Behaviour in schools: advice for headteachers and school staff 2022](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools 2022](#)
- [The Equality Act 2010](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)
- [Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement 2023](#)
- [Use of reasonable force in schools](#)
- [Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school](#)
- [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#)

In addition, this policy is based on:

- Section 175 of the [Education Act 2002](#), which outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of its pupils
- Sections 88 to 94 of the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#), which requires schools to regulate pupils' behaviour and publish a behaviour policy and written statement of behaviour principles, and gives schools the authority to confiscate pupils' property
- [DfE guidance](#) explaining that maintained schools must publish their behaviour policy online

3. Definitions

Misbehaviour is defined as:

- Disruption in lessons, in corridors between lessons, and at break and lunchtimes
- Non-completion of classwork or homework
- Poor attitude
- Incorrect uniform

Serious misbehaviour is defined as:

- Repeated breaches of the school rules
- Any form of bullying
- Sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration, or sexual assault (intentional sexual touching without consent)
- Sexual harassment, meaning unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, such as:
 - Sexual comments
 - Sexual jokes or taunting
 - Physical behaviour such as interfering with clothes
 - Online sexual harassment, such as unwanted sexual comments and messages (including on social media), sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos, or sharing of unwanted explicit content
- Vandalism
- Theft
- Fighting
- Smoking
- Racist, sexist, homophobic or discriminatory behaviour
- Possession of any prohibited items. These are:
 - Knives or weapons
 - Alcohol
 - Illegal drugs
 - Stolen items
 - Tobacco and cigarette papers
 - E-cigarettes or vapes
 - Fireworks
 - Pornographic images
 - Any article a staff member reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil)

4. Bullying

Bullying is defined as the repetitive, intentional harming of 1 person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying is, therefore:

- Deliberately hurtful
- Repeated, often over a period of time
- Difficult to defend against

Bullying can include:

TYPE OF BULLYING	DEFINITION
Emotional	Being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting
Physical	Hitting, kicking, pushing, taking another's belongings, any use of violence
Prejudice-based and discriminatory, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Racial• Faith-based• Gendered (sexist)• Homophobic/biphobic• Transphobic• Disability-based	Taunts, gestures, graffiti or physical abuse focused on a particular characteristic (e.g. gender, race, sexuality)
Sexual	Explicit sexual remarks, display of sexual material, sexual gestures, unwanted physical attention, comments about sexual reputation or performance, or inappropriate touching
Direct or indirect verbal	Name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
Cyber-bullying	Bullying that takes place online, such as through social networking sites, messaging apps, gaming sites, devices or via images, audio, video, or written content generated by artificial intelligence (AI)

Prevention

Bullying, the prevention of bullying and the action to be taken if bullying occurs is discussed in each class in an age-appropriate way as part of PSHE and on other occasions as necessary.

Acceptable behaviour is also discussed in class and as a school as we help children to develop their social skills.

Procedures

- Report bullying incidents to staff.
- The bullying behaviour/allegation will be investigated.
- Incidents of bullying will be recorded by staff in the behaviour log.
- If bullying has taken place parents (of both parties) will be informed and will be asked to come into a meeting to discuss the problem.

- Steps will be taken quickly to stop any bullying.
- An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.
- Other consequences may take place according to this Behaviour Policy.
- If felt necessary and appropriate, the police will be consulted.

Outcomes

- The school staff will help children towards reconciliation.
- After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place aiming to the children feel safe and comfortable.

Any person who has experienced bullying in our school has the right to:

- Be taken seriously;
- Tell a member of staff;
- Be heard sympathetically;
- Have timely action taken;
- Support as long as it is required.

Any person who has engaged in bullying behaviour will be:

- Helped to realise the consequences of their actions;
- Helped to attain acceptable interactive social skills;
- Involved in the resolution of the situation;
- Given assistance as long as it is required.

5. Roles and responsibilities

5.1 The governing board

The Quality & Standards Committee is responsible for:

- Reviewing and approving the written statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1)
- Reviewing this behaviour policy in conjunction with the headteacher
- Monitoring the policy's effectiveness
- Holding the headteacher to account for its implementation

5.2 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Reviewing this policy in conjunction with the Quality & Standards Committee
- Giving due consideration to the school's statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1)
- Approving this policy
- Ensuring that the school environment encourages positive behaviour
- Ensuring that staff deal effectively with poor behaviour
- Monitoring that the policy is implemented by staff consistently with all groups of pupils
- Ensuring that all staff understand the behavioural expectations and the importance of maintaining them
- Providing new staff with a clear induction into the school's behavioural culture to ensure they understand its rules and routines, and how best to support all pupils to participate fully

- Offering appropriate training in behaviour management, and the impact of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and mental health needs on behaviour, to any staff who require it, so they can fulfil their duties set out in this policy
- Ensuring this policy works alongside the safeguarding policy to offer pupils both sanctions and support when necessary
- Ensuring that the data from the behaviour log is reviewed regularly, to make sure that no groups of pupils are being disproportionately impacted by this policy (see section 13.1)

5.3 Teachers and staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Creating a calm and safe environment for pupils
- Establishing and maintaining clear boundaries of acceptable pupil behaviour
- Implementing the behaviour policy consistently
- Communicating the school's expectations, routines, values and standards through teaching behaviour and in every interaction with pupils
- Modelling expected behaviour and positive relationships
- Providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular pupils
- Considering the impact of their own behaviour on the school culture and how they can uphold school rules and expectations
- Recording behaviour incidents promptly on CPOMS
- Challenging pupils to meet the school's expectations

The senior leadership team (SLT) will support staff in responding to behaviour incidents.

5.4 Parents and carers

Parents and carers, where possible, should:

- Get to know the school's behaviour policy and reinforce it at home where appropriate
- Support their child in adhering to the school's behaviour policy
- Inform the school of any changes in circumstances that may affect their child's behaviour
- Discuss any behavioural concerns with the class teacher promptly
- Take part in any pastoral work following misbehaviour (for example, attending reviews of specific behaviour interventions)
- Raise any concerns about the management of behaviour with the school directly, while continuing to work in partnership with the school
- Take part in the life of the school and its culture

The school will endeavour to build a positive relationship with parents and carers by keeping them informed about developments in their child's behaviour and the school's policy, and working in collaboration with them to tackle behavioural issues.

5.5 Pupils

Pupils will be made aware of the following during their induction into the behaviour culture:

- The expected standard of behaviour they should be displaying at school
- That they have a duty to follow the behaviour policy
- The school's key rules and routines

- The rewards they can earn for meeting the behaviour standards, and the consequences they will face if they don't meet the standards
- The pastoral support that is available to them to help them meet the behaviour standards

Pupils will be supported to meet the behaviour standards and will be provided with repeated induction sessions wherever appropriate.

Pupils will be supported to develop an understanding of the school's behaviour policy and wider culture.

Pupils will be asked to give feedback on their experience of the behaviour culture to support the evaluation, improvement and implementation of the behaviour policy.

Extra support and induction will be provided for pupils who are mid-phase arrivals.

6. Pupil expectations

Pupils are expected to:

- Behave in an orderly and self-controlled way
- Show respect to members of staff and each other
- In class, make it possible for all pupils to learn
- Move quietly around the school
- Treat the school buildings and school property with respect
- Wear the correct uniform at all times
- Accept sanctions when given
- Refrain from behaving in a way that brings the school into disrepute, including when outside school or online

Where appropriate and reasonable, adjustments may be made to routines within the curriculum to ensure all pupils can meet behavioural expectations in the curriculum.

Children that set a great example, demonstrate our school values or produce wonderful work are celebrated in our assemblies and through ongoing, consistent reinforcement by all staff.

6.1 Mobile phones

Pupils may bring mobile devices and smartwatches into school if they are walking to school unaccompanied. However, these are to be switched off at the school gate (if switching off is possible) and presented to the class teacher for secure storage out of reach of any pupils.

Any breach of the acceptable use agreement by a pupil may trigger disciplinary action in line with the school behaviour policy, which may result in the confiscation of their device and a ban on them bringing it in again.

The school can accept no liability in the case of loss or damage.

7. Responding to behaviour

7.1 Classroom management

Teaching and support staff are responsible for setting the tone and context for positive behaviour within the school.

They will:

- Create and maintain a stimulating environment that encourages pupils to be engaged
- Display the behaviour curriculum or their own classroom rules
- Develop a positive relationship with pupils, which may include:
 - Greeting pupils in the morning/at the start of lessons
 - Establishing clear routines
 - Communicating expectations of behaviour in ways other than verbally
 - Highlighting and promoting good behaviour
 - Concluding the day positively and starting the next day afresh
 - Having a plan for dealing with low-level disruption
 - Using positive reinforcement

7.2 Safeguarding

The school recognises that changes in behaviour may be an indicator that a pupil is in need of help or protection.

We will consider whether a pupil's misbehaviour may be linked to them suffering, or being likely to suffer, significant harm.

Where this may be the case, we will follow our child protection and safeguarding policy, and consider whether pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate.

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information.

7.3 Responding to good behaviour

When a pupil's behaviour meets or goes above and beyond the expected behaviour standard, staff will recognise it with positive recognition and reward. This provides an opportunity for all staff to reinforce the school's culture and ethos.

Positive reinforcements and rewards will be applied clearly and fairly to reinforce the routines, expectations and norms of the school's behaviour culture.

Positive behaviour will be rewarded with:

We will reward positive behaviour using the rewards below:

- By giving deserved praise;
- By displaying positive gestures and body language;
- By awarding dojos for good behaviour or work. Each class uses Class Dojo to keep a record of individual points awarded. Every 10 dojos will be rewarded with a token to go in the dojos totalizer.
- At the end of each half-term the house that has earned the most dojos will be celebrated in assembly and are invited to enjoy a non-uniform day;
- By giving public praise – praise in front of and from other children, staff and parents;
- By giving Star of the Week's Awards to reinforce the values (the school's and British) that are important to us in this school:
 - Two children from each class will be chosen for exceptional work or behaviour each week. A certificate will be awarded in assembly on a Friday and they will join the Headteacher at lunchtime enjoying a hot chocolate or squash.
 - Their name will also be put on display on the board outside the head's office and shared with the school community.
 - Other members of staff may nominate any child for exceptional behaviour or work over and above the two awards from the class teacher they are given a

discretionary Headteacher's Award certificate for exceptional model behaviours too.

- By awarding special responsibilities or privileges.

7.4 Responding to misbehaviour

When a pupil's behaviour falls below the standard that can reasonably be expected of them, staff will respond in order to restore a calm and safe learning environment, and to prevent recurrence of misbehaviour.

Staff will endeavour to create a predictable environment by always challenging behaviour that falls short of the standards, and by responding in a consistent, fair and proportionate manner, so pupils know with certainty that misbehaviour will always be addressed.

De-escalation techniques can be used to help prevent further behaviour issues arising, such as the use of pre-arranged scripts and phrases.

All pupils will be treated equitably under the policy, with any factors that contributed to the behavioural incident identified and taken into account.

When giving behaviour sanctions, staff will also consider what support could be offered to a pupil to help them to meet behaviour standards in the future.

The school may use one or more of the following sanctions in response to unacceptable behaviour:

- Expecting work to be completed at home, or at break or lunchtime
- A verbal reprimand and reminder of the expectations of behaviour
- Time off break or lunchtime
- Loss of privileges – for instance, the loss of a prized responsibility
- Use of natural consequences, such as tidying up a mess that's been caused by their behaviour
- Referring the pupil to a senior member of staff
- Letter or phone call home to parents/carers
- Removal of the pupil from the classroom
- Internal exclusion
- Suspension
- Permanent exclusion, in the most serious of circumstances

Personal circumstances of the pupil will be taken into account when choosing sanctions and decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, but with regard to the impact on perceived fairness. Certain children may require the drawing up of an individual behaviour plan as appropriate to their needs. However, in the majority of cases and for consistencies sake the consequences shown ladder below is also displayed in each classroom and used to help decide upon appropriate consequences too):

BEHAVIOUR CONSEQUENCES



C1 - 2 WARNINGS - 2 MINUTES OFF BREAK

Off task, calling out, chatting, task avoidance, unkind words, not listening

C2 - 5 MINUTES OFF BREAK

Disrespectful, answering back, rude words, refusal to work, repeated C1

C3 - 15/20 MINUTES OFF BREAK PARENTS CONTACTED

Physical behaviours, very poor language, damaging property, repeated C2

C4 - INTERNAL EXCLUSION

Dangerous behaviour, aggressive or threatening.

C5 - SUSPENSION OR EXCLUSION

Head teacher's decision in line with policy

School Rules

We have 3 simple rules in our school: Ready, Respectful and Safe

We have chosen to implement a Restorative and Solution Focused Approach to supporting the enactment of these rules as we believe this supports the development of the whole-child as a successful, regulated and confident learner.

Restorative Practices and Approaches promote harmonious relationships in schools and to the successful resolution of conflict and harm. This involves describing what happened, reflecting on the impact on everyone, understanding and valuing everyone's perspectives and agreeing a way to resolve the situation.

At Sidlesham restorative questions are a tool used to process an incident of wrongdoing or conflict. When a situation has occurred, the person(s) who has created the conflict takes some time and answers questions such as the following: What happened? The questions focus on the incident, and allow the person to think about how his/her actions affected others. It encourages empathy, accountability, expression of feelings and thoughts, and problem solving. Restorative questions are also answered by those who were impacted by the incident, to help them process their feelings and determine what they need to make things right.

Below are the prompts all adults use to support children to recognise the impact of their actions and make things right, underpinned by understanding to help make more positive choices for the future. It should be noted that these questions may have to take place at a later time or even date once the children have become regulated once again.

Restorative Questions

What happened?

What were you thinking/feeling?

How did this make people feel?

Who else has been affected?

What should we do to put things right?

How can we do things differently in the future?

7.5 Reasonable force

Reasonable force covers a range of interventions that involve physical contact with pupils. All members of staff have a duty to use reasonable force, in the following circumstances, to prevent a pupil from:

- Causing disorder
- Hurting themselves or others
- Damaging property
- Committing an offence

Incidents of reasonable force must:

- Always be used as a last resort
- Be applied using the minimum amount of force and for the minimum amount of time possible
- Be used in a way that maintains the safety and dignity of all concerned
- Never be used as a form of punishment
- Be recorded on CPOMS and reported to parents/carers

When considering using reasonable force, staff should, in considering the risks, carefully recognise any specific vulnerabilities of the pupil, including SEND, mental health needs or medical conditions.

7.6 Confiscation and searching

Searching, screening and confiscation is conducted in line with the DfE's [latest guidance on searching, screening and confiscation](#).

Confiscation

Any prohibited items (listed in section 3) found in a pupil's possession as a result of a search will be confiscated. These items will not be returned to the pupil.

We will also confiscate any item that is harmful or detrimental to school discipline. These items will be returned to pupils after discussion with senior leaders and parents/carers, if appropriate.

Searching pupils' possessions

Possessions means any items that the pupil has or appears to have control of, including:

- Coats
- Bags

A pupil's possessions can be searched for any item if the pupil agrees to the search. If the pupil does not agree to the search, staff can still carry out a search for prohibited items (listed in section 3) and items identified in the school rules.

An authorised member of staff can search a pupil's possessions when the pupil and another member of staff are present.

If there is a serious risk of harm if the search is not conducted immediately, or it is not reasonably practicable to summon another member of staff, the search can be carried out by a single authorised member of staff.

Informing the designated safeguarding lead (DSL)

The staff member who carried out the search should inform the DSL without delay:

- Of any incidents where the member of staff had reasonable grounds to suspect a pupil was in possession of a prohibited item as listed in section 3
- If they believe that a search has revealed a safeguarding risk

All searches for prohibited items (listed in section 3), including incidents where no items were found, will be recorded in the school's safeguarding system.

Informing parents/carers

Parents/carers will always be informed of any search for a prohibited item (listed in section 3). A member of staff will tell the parents/carers as soon as is reasonably practicable:

- What happened
- What was found, if anything
- What has been confiscated, if anything
- What action the school has taken, including any sanctions that have been applied to their child

Support after a search

Irrespective of whether any items are found as the result of any search, the school will consider whether the pupil may be suffering or likely to suffer harm and whether any specific support is needed (due to the reasons for the search, the search itself, or the outcome of the search).

If this is the case, staff will follow the school's safeguarding policy and speak to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). The DSL will consider whether pastoral support, an early help intervention or a referral to children's social care is appropriate.

7.7 Off-site misbehaviour

Sanctions may be applied where a pupil has misbehaved off-site when representing the school. This means misbehaviour when the pupil is:

- Taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity (e.g. school trips)
- Travelling to or from school
- Wearing school uniform
- In any other way identifiable as a pupil of our school

Sanctions may also be applied where a pupil has misbehaved off-site, at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, if the misbehaviour:

- Could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- Poses a threat to another pupil
- Could adversely affect the reputation of the school

Sanctions will only be given out on school premises or elsewhere when the pupil is under the lawful control of a staff member (e.g. on a school-organised trip).

7.8 Online misbehaviour

The school can issue behaviour sanctions to pupils for online misbehaviour when:

- It poses a threat or causes harm to another pupil
- It could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- It adversely affects the reputation of the school
- The pupil is identifiable as a member of the school

Sanctions will only be given out on school premises or elsewhere when the pupil is under the lawful control of a staff member.

7.9 Suspected criminal behaviour

If a pupil is suspected of criminal behaviour, the school will make an initial assessment of whether to report the incident to the police.

When establishing the facts, the school will endeavour to preserve any relevant evidence to hand over to the police.

If a decision is made to report the matter to the police, a member of the senior leadership team will make the report.

The school will not interfere with any police action taken. However, the school may continue to follow its own investigation procedure and enforce sanctions, as long as it does not conflict with police action.

If a report to the police is made, the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) will make a tandem report to children's social care, if appropriate.

7.10 Zero-tolerance approach to sexual harassment and sexual violence

The school will ensure that all incidents of sexual harassment and/or violence are met with a suitable response, and never ignored.

Pupils are encouraged to report anything that makes them uncomfortable, no matter how 'small' they feel it might be.

The school's response will be:

- Proportionate
- Considered
- Supportive
- Decided on a case-by-case basis

The school has procedures in place to respond to any allegations or concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing. These include clear processes for:

- Responding to a report
- Carrying out risk assessments, where appropriate, to help determine whether to:
 - Manage the incident internally
 - Refer to early help
 - Refer to children's social care
 - Report to the police
 - Brook Traffic Light System could be referred to in order to help understanding of sexualised behaviours and usual expectations at different ages

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information.

7.11 Malicious allegations

Where a pupil makes an allegation against a member of staff and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will consider whether to discipline the pupil in accordance with this policy.

Where a pupil makes an allegation of sexual violence or sexual harassment against another pupil and that allegation is shown to have been deliberately invented or malicious, the school will consider whether to discipline the pupil in accordance with this policy.

In all cases where an allegation is determined to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious, the school (in collaboration with the local authority designated officer (LADO), where relevant) will consider whether the pupil who made the allegation is in need of help, or the allegation may have been a cry for help. If so, a referral to children's social care may be appropriate.

The school will also consider the pastoral needs of staff and pupils accused of misconduct.

Please refer to our child protection and safeguarding policy for more information on responding to allegations of abuse against staff or other pupils.

8. Serious sanctions

8.1 Detention

Pupils can be issued with detentions during break or lunchtime.

The school will decide whether it is necessary to inform the pupil's parents/carers.

When imposing a detention, the school will consider whether doing so would:

- Compromise the pupil's safety
- Conflict with a medical appointment
- Prevent the pupil from getting home safely
- Interrupt the pupil's caring responsibilities

8.2 Removal from classrooms

In response to serious or persistent breaches of this policy, the school may remove the pupil from the classroom for a limited time.

Pupils who have been removed will continue to receive education under the supervision of a member of staff which is meaningful, but it may differ from the mainstream curriculum.

Removal is a serious sanction and will only be used in response to serious misbehaviour. Staff will only remove pupils from the classroom once other behavioural strategies have been attempted, unless the behaviour is so extreme as to warrant immediate removal.

Removal can be used to:

- Restore order if the pupil is being unreasonably disruptive
- Maintain the safety of all pupils
- Allow the disruptive pupil to continue their learning in a managed environment
- Allow the disruptive pupil to regain calm in a safe space

Pupils who have been removed from the classroom are supervised by another member of staff and will be removed for a maximum of a school day.

Pupils will not be removed from classrooms for prolonged periods of time without the explicit agreement of the headteacher.

Pupils should be reintegrated into the classroom as soon as appropriate and safe to do so. The school will consider what support is needed to help a pupil successfully reintegrate into the classroom and meet the expected standards of behaviour.

Parents/carers will be informed on the same day that their child is removed from the classroom.

The school will consider an alternative approach to behaviour management for pupils who are frequently removed from class, such as:

- Meetings with our ELSA
- Use of teaching assistants
- Short-term behaviour report cards
- Long-term behaviour plans
- Pupil support units
- Multi-agency assessment

Staff will record all incidents of removal from the classroom along with details of the incident that led to the removal, and any protected characteristics of the pupil on CPOMS.

8.3 Suspension and permanent exclusion

The school can use suspension and permanent exclusion in response to serious incidents or in response to persistent poor behaviour which has not improved following in-school sanctions and interventions.

The decision to suspend or exclude will be made by the headteacher and only as a last resort.

The decision to exclude a pupil from Sidlesham Primary School will be lawful, reasonable and fair. Under the Equality Act 2010 ("the Equality Act") school must not discriminate against, harass or victimise pupils because of their: sex; race; disability; religion or belief; sexual orientation; because of a pregnancy / maternity; or because of a gender reassignment. For disabled children, this includes a duty to make reasonable adjustments to policies and practices. The Headteacher and Governing Body will take account of their statutory duties in relation to SEND and have regard for the SEND Code of Practice.

Pupils whose behaviour at lunchtime is disruptive may be excluded from the school premises for the duration of the lunchtime period. In such cases the legal requirements in relation to exclusion, such as the head teacher's duty to notify parents, still apply. Lunchtime exclusions are counted as half a school day for statistical purposes and in determining whether a governing body meeting is triggered.

The behaviour of pupils outside school may also be considered as grounds for exclusion.

When establishing the facts in relation to an exclusion decision the Headteacher will apply the civil standard of proof, i.e. 'on the balance of probabilities' it is more likely than not that a fact is true, rather than the criminal standard of 'beyond reasonable doubt'.

The Headteacher may withdraw an exclusion that has not been reviewed by the governing body.

The Headteacher will always take account of their legal duty of care when sending a pupil home following exclusion.

'Informal' or 'unofficial' exclusions, such as sending pupils home 'to cool off', are unlawful, regardless of whether they occur with the agreement of parents or carers. Any exclusion of a pupil, even for short periods of time, must be formally recorded.

Whenever the Head Teacher excludes a pupil from Sidlesham Primary School, they will, without delay, notify parents of the period of the exclusion and the reasons for it.

They will also provide parents with the following information in writing:

- the reasons for the exclusion;
- the period of a fixed period exclusion or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent;
- parents' right to make representations about the exclusion to the governing body and how the pupil may be involved in this;
- how any representations should be made;
- where there is a legal requirement for the governing body to consider the exclusion, that parents have a right to attend a meeting, be represented at this meeting (at their own expense) and to bring a friend;
- that for the first five school days of an exclusion (or until the start date of any alternative provision where this is earlier) parents are legally required to ensure that their child is not present in a public place during school hours without reasonable justification, and that parents may be given a fixed penalty notice or prosecuted if they fail to do so.
- If alternative provision is being arranged then the following information will be included with this notice where it can reasonably be found out within the timescale:
- the start date for any provision of full-time education that has been arranged for the pupil during the exclusion;
- the start and finish times of any such provision, including the times for morning and afternoon sessions where relevant;
- the address at which the provision will take place; and
- any information required by the pupil to identify the person he / she should report to on the first day.
- Where this information on alternative provision is not reasonably ascertainable by the end of the afternoon session it may be provided in a subsequent notice, but it must be provided without delay and no later than 48 hours before the provision is due to start. The only exception to this is where alternative provision is to be provided before the sixth day of an exclusion, in which case the information can be provided with less than 48 hours' notice with parents' consent.
- Parents must be informed where a fixed period exclusion has been extended or converted to a permanent exclusion. In such cases the head teacher must write again to the parents explaining the reasons for the change and providing any additional information required.

The Head Teacher will, without delay, notify the governing body and the local authority of:

- a permanent exclusion (including where a fixed period exclusion is made permanent);
- exclusions which would result in the pupil being excluded for more than five school days (or more than ten lunchtimes) in a term; and
- exclusions which would result in the pupil missing a public examination or national curriculum test.

For all other exclusions the Head Teacher will notify the local authority and governing body once a term. Notifications must include the reasons for the exclusion and the duration of any fixed period exclusion.

In addition, within 14 days of a request, governing bodies must provide to the Secretary of State and the local authority, information about any exclusions within the last 12 months.

For a permanent exclusion, if the pupil lives outside the local authority in which the school is located, the Head Teacher will also advise the pupil's 'home authority' of the exclusion without delay.

Where parents dispute the decision of the governing body not to reinstate a permanently excluded pupil, they can ask for this decision to be reviewed by an independent review panel. Where there is an allegation of

discrimination (under the Equality Act 2010) in relation to a fixed-period or permanent exclusion, parents can also make a claim to the First-tier Tribunal (for disability discrimination) or a County Court (for other forms of discrimination).

An independent review panel does not have the power to direct a governing body to reinstate an excluded pupil. However, where a panel decides that a governing body's decision is flawed when considered in the light of the principles applicable on an application for judicial review, it can direct a governing body to reconsider its decision. If the governing body does not subsequently offer to reinstate a pupil, the panel will be expected to order that the school makes an additional payment of £4,000. This payment will go to the local authority towards the costs of providing alternative provision.

For a fixed period exclusion of more than five school days, the governing body of Sidlesham Primary School will arrange suitable full-time education. This provision must begin no later than the sixth day of the exclusion.

For permanent exclusions, the local authority must arrange suitable full-time education for the pupil to begin no later than the sixth day of the exclusion. This will be the pupil's 'home authority' in cases where the school is maintained by (or located within) a different local authority.

In addition, where a pupil has a statement of SEND, the local authority must ensure that an appropriate full-time placement is identified in consultation with the parents, who retain their rights to express a preference for a school that they wish their child to attend, or make representations for a placement in any other school.

Sidlesham Primary School may direct a pupil off-site for education to improve his or her behaviour. A pupil may also transfer to another school as part of a 'managed move' with the consent of the parties involved, including the parents. However, the threat of exclusion will never be used to influence parents to remove their child from the school.

At Sidlesham Primary School, we will take reasonable steps to set and mark work for pupils during the first five school days of exclusion, and alternative provision will be arranged from the sixth day. We will then work with the parents to create a strategy for reintegrating the pupil in their return to school, and for managing their future behaviour.

The Head Teacher must remove a pupil's name from the school admissions register if:

- 15 school days have passed since the parents were notified of the governing body's decision to uphold a permanent exclusion and no application has been made for an independent review panel; or
- the parents have stated in writing that they will not be applying for an independent review panel.

Where an application for an independent review panel has been made within 15 school days, the Head Teacher must wait until the review has been determined, or abandoned, before removing a pupil's name from the register.

Where a pupil's name is removed from the school register and a discrimination claim is subsequently made, the First-tier Tribunal or County Court has the power to direct that the pupil should be reinstated.

Only the Head Teacher of a school can exclude a pupil and this must be on disciplinary grounds. Whilst exclusion may still be an appropriate sanction, the Head Teacher will take account of any contributing factors that are identified after an incident of poor behaviour has occurred. For example, where it comes to light that a pupil has suffered bereavement, has mental health issues or has been subject to bullying. Where practical, the Head Teacher will give pupils an opportunity to present their case before taking the decision to exclude. Excluded pupils will then be enabled and encouraged to participate at all stages of the exclusion process, taking into account their age and understanding.

A pupil may be excluded for one or more fixed periods (up to a maximum of 45 school days in a single academic year), or permanently. A fixed period exclusion does not have to be for a continuous period. In exceptional cases, usually where further evidence has come to light, a fixed period exclusion may be extended or converted to a permanent exclusion.

9. Responding to misbehaviour from pupils with SEND

9.1 Recognising the impact of SEND on behaviour

The school recognises that pupils' behaviour may be impacted by a special educational need or disability (SEND).

When incidents of misbehaviour arise, we will consider them in relation to a pupil's SEND, although we recognise that not every incident of misbehaviour will be connected to their SEND. Decisions on whether a pupil's SEND had an impact on an incident of misbehaviour will be made on a case-by-case basis.

When dealing with misbehaviour from pupils with SEND, especially where their SEND affects their behaviour, the school will balance their legal duties when making decisions about enforcing the behaviour policy. The legal duties include:

- Taking reasonable steps to avoid any substantial disadvantage to a disabled pupil being caused by the school's policies or practices ([Equality Act 2010](#))
- Using our best endeavours to meet the needs of pupils with SEND ([Children and Families Act 2014](#))
- If a pupil has an education, health and care (EHC) plan, the provisions set out in that plan must be secured and the school must co-operate with the local authority and other bodies

As part of meeting these duties, the school will anticipate, as far as possible, all likely triggers of misbehaviour, and put in place support to prevent these from occurring.

Any preventative measures will take into account the specific circumstances and requirements of the pupil concerned. For example:

- Short, planned movement breaks for a pupil with SEND who finds it difficult to sit still for long
- Adjusting seating plans to allow a pupil with visual or hearing impairment to sit in sight of the teacher
- Adjusting uniform requirements for a pupil with sensory issues or who has severe eczema
- Training for staff in understanding conditions such as autism
- Use of separation spaces where pupils can regulate their emotions during a moment of sensory overload

9.2 Adapting sanctions for pupils with SEND

When considering a behavioural sanction for a pupil with SEND, the school will take into account:

- Was the pupil unable to understand the rule or instruction?
- Was the pupil unable to act differently at the time as a result of their SEND?
- Is the pupil likely to behave aggressively due to their particular SEND?

If the answer to any of these questions is 'yes', it may be unlawful for the school to sanction the pupil for the behaviour.

The school will then assess if it is appropriate to use a sanction and if so, whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made to the sanction.

9.3 Considering whether a pupil displaying challenging behaviour may have unidentified SEND

The school's special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) may evaluate a pupil who exhibits challenging behaviour to determine whether they have any underlying needs that are not currently being met.

Where necessary, support and advice will also be sought from specialist teachers, an educational psychologist, medical practitioners and/or others, to identify or support specific needs.

When acute needs are identified in a pupil, we will liaise with external agencies and plan support programmes for that child. We will work with parents/carers to create the plan and review it on a regular basis.

9.4 Pupils with an education, health and care (EHC) plan

The provisions set out in the EHC plan must be secured and the school will co-operate with the local authority and other bodies.

If the school has a concern about the behaviour of a pupil with an EHC plan, it will make contact with the local authority to discuss the matter. If appropriate, the school may request an emergency review of the EHC plan.

10. Supporting pupils following a sanction

Following a sanction, the school may consider strategies to help pupils to understand how to improve their behaviour and meet the expectations of the school.

This could include measures like:

- Reintegration meetings
- Daily contact with an identified member of staff
- A report card with personalised behaviour goals

11. Pupil transition

11.1 Inducting incoming pupils

The school will support incoming pupils to meet behaviour standards by offering an induction process to familiarise them with the behaviour policy and the wider school culture.

11.2 Preparing outgoing pupils for transition

To ensure a smooth transition to the next year, pupils have transition sessions with their new teacher(s). In addition, staff members hold transition meetings.

To ensure behaviour is continually monitored and the right support is in place, information relating to pupil behaviour issues may be transferred to relevant staff at the start of the term or year.

12. Training

As part of their induction process, our staff are provided with our behaviour policy and broad expectations are outlined on managing behaviour.

Behaviour management may also form part of continuing professional development.

13. Monitoring arrangements

13.1 Monitoring and evaluating behaviour

The school will collect data on the following:

Behavioural incidents, including removal from the classroom

Attendance, permanent exclusion and suspension

Use of pupil support units, off-site directions and managed moves

Incidents of searching, screening and confiscation

Anonymous surveys for staff, pupils, governors, trustees and other stakeholders on their perceptions and experiences of the school behaviour culture

The data will be analysed every year by the headteacher and the safeguarding governor.

The data will be analysed from a variety of perspectives including:

At school level

By age group

At the level of individual members of staff

By time of day/week/term

By protected characteristic

The school will use the results of this analysis to make sure it is meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010. If any trends or disparities between groups of pupils are identified by this analysis, the school will review its policies to tackle it.

13.2 Monitoring this policy

This behaviour policy will be reviewed by the headteacher and Quality & Standards Committee at least annually, or more frequently, if needed, to address findings from the regular monitoring of the behaviour data (as per section 13.1). At each review, the policy will be approved by the Headteacher.

The written statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1) will be reviewed and approved by the Quality and Standards Committee annually.

14. Links with other policies

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policy:

Child protection and safeguarding policy

Appendix 1: written statement of behaviour principles

The school has adopted the following key principles to create a caring, learning environment:

- An ethos that values and encourages motivation and commitment amongst staff and pupils to develop positive relationships and promote shared values and appropriate communication which supports relationships.
- Every pupil understands they have the right to feel safe, valued and respected, and to be able to learn free from the disruption of others, violence or bullying.
- We are an inclusive school. All members of the school community should be free from discrimination of any sort.
- We would like to see a wide range of rewards, consistently and equitably applied in such a way as to encourage and reward good behaviour around school
- Pupils are helped to take responsibility for their actions
- Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and pupils and consistently applied. However, governors recognise that different sanctions work well for different pupils and different ages of pupils. It is important that staff have discretion to choose the sanctions that they believe will work best in individual cases.
- It is recognised that the use of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual situation and the individual student and the Head teacher is expected to use his/her discretion in their use. Sanctions should, however, be applied fairly, consistently, proportionally and reasonably, taking into account SEND, disability and the needs of vulnerable children, and offering support as necessary.
- The Governors wish to emphasise that violence, threatening behaviour or abuse by pupils or parents towards the school's staff will not be tolerated. If a parent does not conduct himself/herself properly, the school may ban them from the school premises and, if the parent continues to cause disturbance, he or she may be liable to prosecution
- Families are involved in the handling of behaviour incidents to foster good relationships between the school and pupils' home life
- The Governors strongly feel, that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must only be used as the very last resort
- We recognise that all behaviour is communication and that understanding what is being communicated and the underlying needs is crucial for assessing and meeting children's needs and finding solutions.
- We promote equalities, self-esteem, responsibility and positive relationships based on mutual respect.
- We ensure equitable treatment for all.
- We encouraging a sensitive response to behaviour that takes into account context and individual needs.
- We promote early intervention and support.
- A commitment to self-evaluation and quality improvement involving all stakeholders.

This written statement of behaviour principles is reviewed and approved by the Quality & Standards Committee annually.

