# Behaviour policy and statement of behaviour principles

**Brooks Equestrian Academy** 



Approved by:	Angel Brooks	<b>Date:</b> 18/08/23
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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 an approach to maintaining high standards of behaviour that reflect the values of the provision
- > 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 and discipline in schools: advice for headteachers and school staff, 2016
- > Behaviour in schools: advice for headteachers and school staff 2022
- > Searching, screening and confiscation at school 2018
- > Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools 2022
- > The Equality Act 2010
- > Keeping Children Safe in Education
- > Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England 2017

- ➤ Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement 2022
- > Use of reasonable force in schools
- > Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school

It is also based on the 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 <u>Education and Inspections Act 2006</u>, which requires schools to regulate pupils' behaviour and publish a behaviour policy and written statement of behaviour principles, and give schools the authority to confiscate pupils' property
- > Schedule 1 of the <u>Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014</u>; paragraph 7 outlines a school's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, paragraph 9 requires the school to have a written behaviour policy and paragraph 10 requires the school to have an anti-bullying strategy

#### 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 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 like 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
- 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:  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 or gaming sites

Details of our schools approach to preventing bullying are set out in the anti-bullying policy.

# 5. Roles and responsibilities

#### **5.1 The Directors**

The director (Angel Brooks) is responsible for:

- > Reviewing and approving the written statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1)
- > Reviewing this behaviour policy
- > Monitoring the policy's effectiveness
- > Holding staff to account for its implementation
- > Giving due consideration to the provisions statement of behaviour principles (appendix 1)
- > Approving this policy
- > Ensuring that the 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)
- > Ensuring that the school environment encourages positive behaviour
- > Ensuring that staff deal effectively with poor behaviour
- > Monitoring how staff implement this policy to ensure rewards and sanctions are applied consistently to all groups of pupils

#### 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 provisions 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 their own behaviour on the provision culture and how they can uphold the rules and expectations
- > Recording behaviour incidents promptly (see appendix 3 for a behaviour log)
- > Challenging pupils to meet the provisions expectations

#### 5.4 Parents and carers

Parents and carers, where possible, should:

- > Get to know the behaviour policy and reinforce it at home where appropriate
- > Support their child in adhering to the provisions behaviour policy

- > Inform the provision of any changes in circumstances that may affect their child's behaviour
- > Discuss any behavioural concerns
- > 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 provision directly, whilst continuing to work in partnership with the provision
- > Take part in the life of the provision and its culture

The provision 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
- > That they have a duty to follow the behaviour policy
- > The provisions key rules and routines
- > The rewards they can earn for meeting the behaviour standard, and the consequences they will face if they don't meet the standard
- > The pastoral support that is available to them to help them meet the behavioural 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 provisions 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. School behaviour curriculum

At Brooks equestrian academy we want to create a positive environment for learning. We expect pupils to listen to staff as they are in the presence of live animals. Students need to develop a routine to support the routine of the horses in which they are caring for. Positive behaviour will be praised, and the behaviour of the animals will also reflect this.

Pupils are expected to:

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

#### 6.1 Mobile phones

Pupils are allowed to bring their mobile phones with them to the provision, but they are to be switched off during the day. They can be stored in the learner's bag or placed in a drawer with a staff member. They are not allowed to use them during the day unless given permission to by a staff member. There is exemptions for medical or personal reasons that the provision will support. Learner's will need permission from their parents or carers to bring their mobile phone with them, and understand that the provision is not liable for any loss or damage.

## 7. Responding to behaviour

#### 7.1 Classroom management

Staff are responsible for setting the tone and context for positive behaviour within the provision.

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:
  - o Greeting pupils in the morning/at the start of lessons
  - Establishing clear routines
  - o Communicating expectations of behaviour in ways other than verbally
  - Highlighting and promoting good behaviour
  - Concluding the day positively and starting the next day afresh
  - o Having a plan for dealing with low-level disruption
  - Using positive reinforcement

#### 7.2 Safeguarding

The provision 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 provisions culture and ethos.

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

Positive behaviour will be rewarded with:

Verbal praise

Communicating with parents via a phone call or written communication

Certificates and prizes

Positions of responsibility or being entrusted with a particular decision or task

#### 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 provision may use 1 or more of the following sanctions in response to unacceptable behaviour:

- > Sending the pupil out of the class/activity
- > A verbal reprimand and reminder of the expectations of behaviour
- > Setting of written tasks such as an account of their behaviour
- > Expecting work to be completed at home, or at break or lunchtime
- > Detention at break or lunchtime, or after school
- > Loss of privileges for instance, the loss of a prized responsibility
- > Provision based community service, such as tidying a classroom
- > Letter or phone call home to parents
- > Agreeing a behaviour contract
- > Putting a pupil 'on report'
- > Removal of the pupil from the classroom
- > Suspension
- > Permanent exclusions, 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.

#### 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 and reported to parents (see appendix 3 for a behaviour log)

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 Searching, screening and confiscation

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

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

Searching and screening pupils is conducted in line with the DfE's <u>latest guidance on searching</u>, <u>screening</u> and <u>confiscation</u>.

> Could adversely affect the reputation of the school

Sanctions will only be given out on provisiom 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 provision 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 provision
- > It adversely affects the reputation of the provision
- > The pupil is identifiable as a member of the provision

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 provision will make an initial assessment of whether to report the incident to the police.

When establishing the facts, the provision 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, the directors will make the report.

The provision will not interfere with any police action taken. However, the provision 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 provision 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 provision 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
  - o Refer to early help
  - o Refer to children's social care
  - o Report to the police

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 provision 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 provision 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 provision 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, after school or on weekends during term time.

The provision will decide whether it is necessary to inform the pupil's parents.

When imposing a detention, the provision 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

#### 8.3 Suspension and permanent exclusions

The provision 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 directors and only as a last resort.

# 9. Responding to misbehaviour from pupils with SEND

#### 9.1 Recognising the impact of SEND on behaviour

The provision 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 provision will balance their legal duties when making decisions about enforcing the behaviour policy. The legal duties include:

- > Taking reasonable steps to avoid causing any substantial disadvantage to a disabled pupil caused by the provision 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 provision must co-operate with the local authority and other bodies

As part of meeting these duties, the provision 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.

Students with SEND can have access to planned movement breaks. Seating plans will be adjusted for visual or hearing impairment. Sensory issues will be taken into consideration and uniform can be adjusted. Staff will be trained to understand conditions such as autism, and sensory spaces will be provided if possible.

#### 9.2 Adapting sanctions for pupils with SEND

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

- > Whether the pupil was unable to understand the rule or instruction?
- > Whether the pupil was unable to act differently at the time as a result of their SEND?
- > Whether the pupil is 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 provision to sanction the pupil for the behaviour.

The provision 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

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

# 10. Supporting pupils following a sanction

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

The provision will support this by including measures such as reintegration meetings, daily contact with parents and a report card that is personalised with behaviour goals.

## 12. Training

As part of their induction process, our staff are provided with regular training on managing behaviour, including training on:

- > The needs of the pupils at the school
- > How SEND and mental health needs impact behaviour

Behaviour management will also form part of continuing professional development.

A staff training log can be found in appendix 2.

# 13. Monitoring arrangements

#### 13.1 Monitoring and evaluating provision behaviour

The provision 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

The data will be analysed every year by Angel Brooks (Director).

The school will use the results of this analysis to make sure it is meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010.

#### 13.2 Monitoring this policy

This behaviour policy will be reviewed by the directors 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 Angel Brooks (director)

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

# 14. Links with other policies

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policies

- > Child protection and safeguarding policy
- > Attendance policy

# Appendix 1: written statement of behaviour principles

- > 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
- > All pupils, staff and visitors are free from any form of discrimination
- > Staff and volunteers set an excellent example to pupils at all times
- > Rewards, sanctions and reasonable force are used consistently by staff, in line with the behaviour policy
- > The behaviour policy is understood by pupils and staff
- > The exclusions policy explains that exclusions will only be used as a last resort, and outlines the processes involved in suspensions and exclusions
- > Pupils are helped to take responsibility for their actions
- > Families are involved in behaviour incidents to foster good relationships between the school and pupils' home life

The governing board also emphasises that violence or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated in any circumstances.

This written statement of behaviour principles is reviewed and approved by the directors annually.

# Appendix 2: staff training log

TRAINING RECEIVED	DATE COMPLETED	TRAINER / TRAINING ORGANISATION	TRAINER'S SIGNATURE	STAFF MEMBER'S SIGNATURE	SUGGESTED REVIEW DATE

# Appendix 3: behaviour log

PUPIL'S NAME:	
PUPIL'S KNOWN PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS:	[sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, sexual orientation]
NAME OF STAFF MEMBER REPORTING THE INCIDENT:	
DATE:	
WHERE DID THE INCIDENT TAKE PLACE?	
WHEN DID THE INCIDENT TAKE PLACE? (BEFORE SCHOOL, AFTER SCHOOL, LUNCHTIME, BREAK TIME)	
WHAT HAPPENED?	
WHO WAS INVOLVED?	
WHAT ACTIONS WERE TAKEN, INCLUDING ANY SANCTIONS?	
IS ANY FOLLOW-UP ACTION NEEDED? IF SO, GIVE DETAILS	
PEOPLE INFORMED OF THE INCIDENT (STAFF, GOVERNORS, PARENTS, POLICE):	

# Appendix 4: letters to parents about pupil behaviour - templates

## First behaviour letter

Dear parent,					
Recently, your childcould.	has not been behaving as well in school as they				
It is important that your child understands the need to follow our behaviour curriculum, which is set out in the behaviour policy. I would appreciate it if you could discuss their behaviour with them.  If your child's behaviour does not improve, I will contact you again and suggest that we meet to discuss how we can work together. However, at this stage I am confident that a reminder of how to behave appropriately will be sufficient.  Yours sincerely,					
				Class teacher name:	
				Class teacher signature:	
Date:					
Behaviour letter – return slip					
Please return this slip to school to confirm you have	ve received this letter. Thank you.				
Name of child:					
Parent name:					
Parent signature:					
Date:					

# Second behaviour letter

Dear parent,	
Following my previous letter regarding the behaviour of they are still struggling to adhere to our behaviour curriculum, which is set out in ou	, I am sorry to say that ur behaviour policy.
I would appreciate it if you could arrange to meet me after school so we can discus	ss a way forward.
Please contact us on brooksequestrian@outlook.com	
Yours sincerely,	
Class teacher name:	
Class teacher signature:	
Date:	

# Third behaviour letter

Dear parent,
I am sorry to report that, despite meeting and creating a behaviour contract, has continued to misbehave.
would now benefit from a structured approach to help improve their behaviou
in school.
I would be grateful if you could attend a meeting with the headteacher, the special educational needs co- ordinator and myself, to discuss how we can best support your child in improving their behaviour.
Insert details of the meeting time, date and location, as necessary, or how to contact the school to arrange th meeting.
Yours sincerely,
Class teacher name:
Class teacher signature:
Date:

# **Detention letter**

Dear parent,	
I am writing to inform you that at this time	_ has been given a detention on this date
The reason(s) for this detention are set out below.	
If you need to see me about this matter, please call the scho	ol to make an appointment.
Yours sincerely,	
Class teacher name:	
Class teacher signature:	
Date:	
Detention letter – return slip	
Please return this slip to school to confirm you have received	d this letter. Thank you.
Name of child:	
Parent name:	
Parent signature:	
Date:	