



Southport
Learning
Trust



BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES POLICY

Policy Approved: September 2025

Policy Reviewed: October 2025 with amendments added to policy

Policy Renewal: September 2026

“The Trustees of the Southport Learning Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people at every opportunity and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment”

AIMS AND POLICY STATEMENTS

This policy makes clear the attitudes and values of Maghull High School and illustrates the processes involved in ensuring students develop responsibility for a self-directed approach towards their conduct throughout their school life. Good order and discipline are essential to the success of the school, as learning takes place best when students understand and take responsibility for their behaviour.

For this policy to be effective it must be accepted and understood by all those involved in the school. All members of the school community have an important role to play in the implementation of this policy to ensure it is consistently applied.

Whilst the overall aim is concerned with providing guidance on expected standards of good conduct, the school also believes in the importance of individual growth and personal development. We believe it is the right of every individual to learn within a safe and orderly environment, which is free from disruption, violence, bullying and any form of harassment. Therefore, we promote equity and fairness for all.

Working in close partnership with parents and guardians is an integral part of the School's Behaviour and Attitudes Policy. Parents/guardians are encouraged to support students to take responsibility for their actions and we will always share our concerns in an open and transparent manner.

It is the responsibility of everyone in the school to act with courtesy and consideration towards others at all times. We recognise that if all in the school community work hard, respect themselves and respect others then good conduct will follow and a calm and orderly learning environment will be achieved.

Bullying of any form will not be tolerated. It is at odds with Maghull High School's core values and it will be dealt with sensitively and appropriately, in accordance with the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.

The implementation of the Behaviour and Attitudes Policy is dependent upon all stakeholders within the school community upholding the key principles and practices outlined below:

- Strong school leadership which promotes a culture of high expectations
- A consistent approach to behaviour management, including the application of rewards and sanctions
- Effective and positive classroom management which creates an environment in which all students engage with their learning
- The teaching and modelling of good behaviour by the school's staff and senior students
- Strong systems of support for students, staff and parents/guardians to promote good behaviour
- Regular liaison and contact with parents/guardians and outside agencies
- The promotion of an orderly school environment, in which students behave sensibly and with consideration for others and the environment, both during lessons and outside lessons

As members of the community, all students have responsibilities; in particular, they are expected to behave responsibly, safely, politely and with respect and common sense at all times, and to take full responsibility for all their actions.

To assist students in meeting these high expectations, the school has laid down a simple set of expectations and rules. This is known as the 'Maghull High Way'. All students must follow the school expectations and rules at all times and accept the consequences if the rules are broken.

School Expectations – Maghull High Way

Aspire	• Attend every day and every lesson on time • Wear full school uniform worn smartly and with pride • Be fully equipped every day for all lessons
Achieve	• Be ready to learn and listen to all instructions – First time every time Stay • engaged and always try your best • Take pride in your work and achievements
Enjoy	• Treat all members of the school community with kindness, dignity and respect • Move in a calm and orderly manner taking responsibility for the school environment • Embrace all opportunities that are offered throughout the school

Standards and Expectations

Uniform

Following the uniform policy is an important part of a student's education and lifelong learning. It provides a sense of belonging, equality and encourages pride in being a member of Maghull High School and in their appearance.

**Please see uniform policy for detailed guidance in relation to standards and expectations.*

Mobile phones and other devices

Students may bring mobile phones to travel to and from school, however, students are not allowed to use their phones, ear pods, or any other devices once past the school gates. Devices must not be seen or used anywhere on the school site. If devices are seen by a member of staff, they will be confiscated and handed into student reception where students can collect them at the end of the school day. The member of staff will also issue a standards and expectations log.

Should a student refuse to hand over their device upon the first request, they will be issued with a behaviour log for refusal. This will then be referred to the member of staff On Call who will follow up with an additional request; should a student refuse again, they will be issued with a second behaviour log. Continued failure to follow instructions regarding devices on site will result in escalation through the sanction system.

Smart watches can be worn in school but only used as a timepiece and not for any form of communication. If used for communication or games, smart watches will be confiscated, and the same process (mobile phones) will be followed.

Research has consistently shown that in the highest performing schools students do not use mobile phones, because students benefit from the time away from them and the distraction they may bring. In exceptional circumstances students and parents can be contacted via the school office. Only students with medical reasons will be granted permission to use their phone within school grounds.

Equipment

All students must have a school bag that is large enough to fit an A4 folder and the following equipment:

1. Clear pencil case with at least two black or blue pens for handwriting, a green pen for assessment, pencil, ruler, rubber
2. Scientific calculator
3. School planner
4. PE kit when needed

Equipment will be checked each morning by form tutor. If any student does not have the relevant equipment they will be issued with a standards and expectations log. Classroom teachers may also issue standards and expectations logs for equipment.

Drinks

Students are encouraged to carry water with them in a refillable bottle. Students are permitted to bring diluted cordial in their own bottle. Other drinks available in the school canteen can be consumed.

Fizzy/carbonated and hot drinks bought off site of any kind are not to be consumed in school. Fizzy/carbonated drinks will be confiscated, and students will need to collect them at the end of the school day. The member of staff will also issue a standards and expectations log. Students who refuse to hand over fizzy/carbonated or hot drinks first time, will be issued with a behaviour log for refusal. This will then be referred to the member of staff On Call who will follow up with an additional request; should a student refuse again, they will be issued with a second behaviour log. Students are not permitted to bring hot drinks on site. Continued failure to follow instructions regarding prohibited drinks will result in escalation through the sanction system.

Punctuality

Students must be in their tutor rooms by 8:50am each day. Anyone arriving after this time without a valid reason will be marked as late. Punctuality to all lessons is essential. At the end of each lesson, a first bell will sound, giving students five minutes to move to their next class. A second bell will signal the end of this transition time. By this point, all students are expected to be in class and ready to learn (this includes break and lunch). Any student who arrives after the second bell, without a valid reason, will be recorded as late. Late arrivals will result in a standards and expectations log being issued

Foul Language

Students are not permitted to use any form of foul or derogatory language. Any language used by students which is rude, offensive, obscene or inappropriate will result in a standards and expectations log being issued. In more serious cases an alternative sanction will be considered.

3 standards and expectations logs per week will result in an after-school detention.

Learning environment

Learning and achievement are at the heart of our community. We expect the highest standards of behaviour during lessons. Classrooms including laboratories, workshops, sports facilities and other teaching environments are places of work and there are clear set rules and expectations for their use. These will enable everyone to work in safety and with enjoyment.

Rewards

Commending students for their good conduct and achievements promotes a positive environment that is conducive to learning and personal development, and encourages students to behave responsibly and respectfully. The overwhelming majority of students make a very positive contribution to the life of Maghull High School and are recognised for this. Students are rewarded for going 'above and beyond' minimum expectations in accordance with the criteria set out in the Rewards Policy.

All lessons will include a 'powerful ending' in which staff dedicate the final five minutes of each lesson sharing reward points with students and awarding a 'student of the lesson award'.

Classroom expectations

- Enter the room calmly, fully equipped and ready to learn
- Sit in the seating plan as allocated by the teacher
- Take out your equipment and answer your name on the register
- Remain quiet until it is your turn to speak, respectfully listening to others
- Respond to the register with either 'Yes, Miss' or 'Yes, Sir'
- Stay on task and try your best
- Pack away sensibly leaving your work area tidy
- Exit calmly when dismissed

Classroom Discipline

- Toilets are open before school, during each lesson changeover, at break, lunchtime and after-school. Toilets will be staffed to ensure they are used appropriately, minimising anti-social behaviour.
- Students are encouraged to use the toilets during break and lunchtime to minimise disruptions to learning. While toilet use is permitted during lessons, it should be reserved for urgent or unavoidable situations only.
- Students with a toilet pass (medical) are permitted to use toilets freely.
- Students must have signed permission to visit the toilets evidenced within their planner.
- Students are only to be dismissed after the school bell has rung. Students will then have a 5 minute changeover time to arrive to their next lesson. Students must arrive to their next lesson before the second bell sounds or they will be marked as late, receiving a standards and expectations log.
- Some students will be given a movement pass, allowing them to leave lessons 2 minutes earlier to help them move around the site. Such passes are given only on medical grounds and students in possession of one will be required to return from break and lunch 2 minutes early.
- Classrooms are to be left tidy and students are to exit in an orderly manner at the end of every lesson.
- The school's ethos of encouragement is central to the promotion of good behaviour. Rewards are one means of achieving this. They have a motivational role in helping students to realise that good behaviour is valued and are clearly defined in the Rewards Policy. Integral to the system of rewards is an emphasis on both formal and informal praise to individuals and groups.

If disciplinary measures are necessary for classroom offences, typically the following procedures will be adhered to, only moving to the next option if the situation does not improve:

- **Choice:** students will be reminded of the Maghull High Way and classroom expectations. They will be given the option to make the right choice in amending their behaviour.
- **Chance:** students will be given a final reminder that if their behaviour does not improve in line with classroom expectations, they will receive a behaviour log and a sanction. At this point a member of staff will log a 'chance' as a zero point.
- **Consequence:** If there has been no improvement, students will receive a behaviour log and will be issued with lunchtime detention.
- **Removal from lesson:** If a student is needed to be removed from the lesson, they will be collected by On Call and escorted to the Reset Room for the remainder of the lesson and will be issued with a lunchtime detention.

Action Taken	Consequence	Communication
'Choice' - warning 1	Reminder to students of expectations	None recorded
'Chance' – warning 2	Final reminder to students of expectations and recorded on Arbor as a Chance.	Chance recorded on Arbor 0 points
'Consequence'	Behaviour log and lunchtime detention.	Recorded on Arbor -1 point.
On Call	Possible removal from lesson, if so, pupils are escorted to Reset Room for remainder of lesson. Pupils who refuse to leave with On Call will receive an additional behaviour log.	Reset recorded on Arbor as 0 points. Telephone call home from classroom teacher.

On Call

Daily support offered by the Senior Leadership Team to promote and establish a positive learning culture. On Call can also be used to address behaviour incidents that have an impact on learning and the learning of others. The On Call system is to be used when behaviour warrants support or intervention, a serious incident has occurred, or all other options have been exhausted.

Expectations during social times

- No contact with any other student should be made. Such contact includes, but is not limited to: pushing, shoving, rough play and play-fighting. (Appropriate contact is permitted during football games, as per FA rules however, dangerous and reckless tackles are not permitted)
- Footballs **must** be returned to a member of staff at the end of lunch (first time, every time)
- All litter **must** be placed in the bins provided
- Students are not permitted to be upstairs in any building unless they are attending a supervised activity or accessing lockers
- Toilets should be accessed during social times
- Water bottles should be refilled during social times
- Students who fail to meet these expectations may receive a consequence as per our sanction system.

Riding a bicycle to school

Bicycles arrival & departure

- Students must walk their bicycle once they are on school grounds
- Bikes must be dismounted at the school gate.

Bicycle parking

- Park bicycles only in designated bicycle racks
- Use a lock, the school is not responsible for lost or stolen bicycles

Riding Conduct

- No riding on school grounds
- No tricks, stunts, or reckless riding
- Always be courteous and aware of pupils and staff

Safety

- A helmet for riding is strongly recommended
- Always follow instructions from staff
- Pupils who are unsafe or fail to follow instructions may not be permitted to ride their bike to school

Addressing poor behaviour and consequences

When dealing with incidents of poor behaviour, the following principles will be applied:

- Poor or disruptive behaviour during lessons will not be tolerated – every student has the right to an education and the school will not accept behaviour by a minority of students that prevents others from learning.
- Where appropriate, the school is committed to working with other agencies in order to support students to bring about improvements in their behaviour.
- Students who use technology such as the internet and mobile phones to cause harm, distress or humiliation to others will be dealt with very seriously. This also applies to such behaviour which takes place outside school.
- The school seeks to make all students aware of the consequences should they choose to misbehave. Understanding probable consequences is important in guiding students to make the right decisions and is intended to promote good behaviour.
- Where a student has misbehaved, the matter will be investigated and, if considered appropriate, a consequence will be imposed.
- A student may be taken out of circulation whilst a breach of the policy is investigated.
- In most cases, the most effective consequences are completed expeditiously and as soon after the event as possible.
- Students will be given the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour and demonstrate that they have learned from their experience and their impact on others.
- A consequence will never be humiliating or degrading and blanket punishments will not be imposed.
- When issuing a consequence, a student's prior conduct may be taken into consideration.
- Disciplinary action taken against a student will not be discriminatory and the school will promote equality at all times.

Examples of behaviour that could result in a warning ('Choice'/'Chance')

- Attitude to learning: Low-level disruption, talking, moving around the classroom without permission, lack of focus, lack of effort

Examples of behaviour that could result in a behaviour log and a lunch detention ('Consequence')

- Lack of respect
- Persistent low level disruption despite warnings
- Removal from one lesson
- Failure to follow a reasonable instructions
- Disrupting the learning of others
- Low level misuse of social media
- Failing to hand over items that must not be in school when asked first time
- Entering an unauthorised area of the school
- Poor behaviour during social times

Examples of behaviour that could result in a 30 minute after-school detention (Monday-Friday 3:20pm-3:50pm)

- More than one behaviour log within the same day
- Removal from more than one lesson per day
- Truancy from one lesson
- Acquiring three standards and expectations logs per week.
- Failure to hand over a mobile phone, ear pods or devices
- Inappropriate use of social media including following of inappropriate accounts
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Graffiti
- Poor behaviour during assembly

Examples of behaviour that could result in a 60 minute after-school detention (Monday to Friday 3:20pm-4:20pm)

- Failure to attend a 30 minute after school detention
- Persistent breach of the school's behaviour policy
- Serious breach of the school's behaviour policy
- Compromising the health and safety of themselves and others

Examples of behaviour that could result in a day of internal suspension

- Persistent truancy within one day
- Failure to attend 60 minute SLT detention
- Persistent failure to attend detentions
- Anti-social behaviour
- Repeated intentional behaviours
- Inappropriate use of social media including in-school filing / posting
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Intimidating behaviour towards another member of the school community; low level conflict / physical contact
- Swearing
- Discriminatory behaviour directed towards another member of the school community
- Vandalism of school property

Examples of behaviour that could result in 2 or more days of internal suspension or external suspension

- Failure to complete internal isolation
- An accumulation of behaviour logs
- Foul and derogatory language towards a member of staff or student intimidation of staff member
- Smoking, including vaping under suspicion of smoking or associating with other students who are suspected of smoking. This includes smoking when in uniform in the community
- Bullying
- Intimidation of a staff member
- Damaging or stealing school property or that of peers intentionally
- Misuse of the fire alarm
- Serious act of aggression - fighting; aggressive confrontation high level
- Alcohol / substance misuse
- Failure to follow reasonable instructions
- Disrespectful and uncooperative behaviour
- Prejudice with intent directed towards other pupils or staff to deliberately try and sabotage reputation
- Serious misuse of social media which targets a member of the school community in an attempt to damage reputation
- Bringing the school into disrepute
- Theft / stealing
- Any act which poses a health and safety risk to the school community

Procedures and Processes

The school's procedures and Home School Agreement make clear to students how acceptable standards of behaviour can be achieved and have a clear rationale, which is made explicit to staff, students and parents. The procedures will be consistently and fairly applied and promote the idea of personal responsibility and that every member of the school has a responsibility towards the whole community.

Behaviour Points (-1 point)

Behaviour points are divided up into the following 3 categories:

Standards and Expectations:

1. *Uniform*
2. *Equipment*
3. *Punctuality*
4. *Homework*
5. *Devices and contraband (compliant)*
6. *Foul/inappropriate language*

3 standards and expectations logs per week will result in an after-school detention.

Truancy

One truancy log per day will result in an after-school detention. More than one instance of truancy per day will result in Isolation. **Behaviour**

1. Behaviour (classroom/social time)
2. Behaviour (refusal to hand in devices/contraband)

One behaviour log per day will result in a lunchtime detention. More than one behaviour log per day will result in an after-school detention

Behaviour points will be reviewed at the end of each day and an appropriate sanction will be allocated on Arbor.

Behaviour Points (0 points)

The following are also logged with 0 points. They do not feed into the school's sanction system, however, they offer key information for pupils, parents and staff.

- Use of toilet during lesson
- Use of time out pass during lesson
- Chance
- Reset room
- Isolation
- First aid

Sanctions

- 20 minute lunchtime detention
- 30 minute afterschool detention
- 60 minute afterschool detention
- Internal isolation (Head of Year/Senior staff to authorise)
- Suspension (Deputy Headteacher/Headteacher to authorise)
- Governor Disciplinary panel
- Managed move within local authority
- Permanent exclusion

Detentions

Schools have a statutory right (Education and Inspections Act 2006) to use detention as a sanction, both within the school day and out of normal school hours. The school believes detentions are a valuable tool in reinforcing behaviour expectations. Parents/carers will be given sufficient notice of a detention that takes place out of school hours. A student who misses a detention without good reason will be expected to serve the detention and may receive a further appropriate sanction.

Lunch detention:

- Take place at lunchtime each day for 20 minutes from 12.40pm - 1.00pm – or from the arrival time of the student

30 minute after-school detention:

- To take place on Monday to Friday from 3.20pm – 3:50pm
- A communication from school will inform a parent that a detention will take place and that failure to attend or complete this in a suitable manner will lead to a further, higher sanction
- Pupils who disrupt detentions and/or behave in an inappropriate manner will be face further sanctions

60 minute after-school detention:

- To take place on Monday to Friday from 3.20pm – 4:20pm
- A communication from school will inform a parent that a detention will take place the following evening and that failure to attend or complete this in a suitable manner will lead to the student being placed in Isolation.
- Pupils who disrupt detentions and/or behave in an inappropriate manner will be face further sanctions

Detentions will only be changed in exceptional circumstances and only through contact with a parent or carer.

Isolation:

- To operate from 9:15am - 4.00pm Students should arrive to school as normal at 8.50am and attend registration. They must then report to the Behaviour and Engagement Leader at 9:15am.
- Each pupil will have access to a computer where they can access their email, EdClass and other electronic resources they may need to support their studies throughout the course of the day.
- During this day the children will have opportunities to work with a professional on reforming their behaviour
 - Repeated offences will result in escalated sanctions
- Students will be dismissed at 4pm. Parents and carers are responsible for arranging transport home from school for students.

Reset Room

- If a student is removed from their lesson, they will be collected by On-Call and sent to work in the Reset Room for the remainder of that lesson. The classroom teacher will issue a behaviour log and a reset room log.
- If a student is found truanting one lesson, they will be given the opportunity to return to lesson. Failure to comply will result in a student working in isolation for the remainder of the lesson. Parents will be informed, and a truancy log will be issued.

Reasonable considerations

Careful consideration will be given on an individual basis for such students and reasonable adjustments will be made where possible. However, the basic right of all students and staff to be part of a safe school community will always remain central to any adjustments made.

The school recognises that some students have a SEND such as those with ADD/ADHD, autism or attachment disorder who have additional needs that may accelerate them to the higher levels more quickly.

Students may be given an additional verbal or visual reminder of the expectations, time to process the reminder and an opportunity to regulate their own behaviour, preferably in a 1:1 situation or out of the room, before any escalation of consequences. Reasonable adjustments are identified on Arbor and within students PSP or SEND profile.

Staff recognise and are trained to understand that a response to being challenged may be an impulsive reaction as opposed to further intentional misbehaviour and time to regulate will be offered.

The relevant Senior or Middle leader, SENDCO, Pastoral Manager, Head of Year will be informed about repeat incidents of poor behaviour by students for whom reasonable adjustments are in place.

Maghull High Way Reports

Students receiving multiple behaviour logs may be placed on report. Report cards are used to help support students who have experienced behavioural challenges, and or struggle with punctuality. These are issued by the Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year and are monitored daily.

Governor Disciplinary Panel

Governor disciplinary panels are arranged for students that have received a number of behavioural points over a period of time and or have also received at least one fixed term external suspension. Students and parents/carers are invited to appear before a panel of governors to review their behaviour. Actions are agreed and a timescale of improvement is set. The purpose of such a serious measure is to give the student an opportunity to account for their behaviour and conduct to Governors and benefit from the guidance Governors will provide.

RRR

The RRR (Reflect/Recover/Reintegrate) facility is used to offer short term respite for students from individual subjects, offer one to one intervention and support students joining or leaving the school.

Recording - Arbor

All behaviour and achievement points are recorded on Arbor for individual student. Additional support and contact with parent/guardian or other stakeholders are recorded by the class teacher and support staff.

Suspensions

The decision to externally suspend is not taken lightly as it is a serious sanction and will only be used when serious breaches of the school's Behaviour and Attitudes Policy occur or when a student is persistently poorly behaved. The school prefers to keep students in school and will consider imposing an internal suspension before a fixed term external suspension.

In some circumstances, however, it may be necessary and appropriate to suspend a student for a fixed period of time.

A parent/carer meeting will take place on the students return to school.

Permanent Exclusion

A permanent exclusion is the ultimate sanction and will only be used where very serious breaches or persistent serious breaches of this Policy have occurred. The school follows the statutory guidance set out in the 2022 DfE guidance 'Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement'.

Where a student is permanently excluded from school the Headteacher's decision will be reviewed by the Governing Body in accordance with the guidelines set out in the 2022 DfE statutory guidance. This function will be delegated to the Governors' Disciplinary Committee.

Where a permanent exclusion has been imposed, the Governors' Disciplinary Committee must meet to review the decision and has the power to reinstate. In the case of a permanent exclusion, if the Governors' Disciplinary Committee uphold the Headteacher's decision, the parents or carers of the child have the right to make representations to an Independent Review Panel.

Roles and Responsibilities

Local Governing Body (LGB)

The LGB is responsible for monitoring this Behaviour and Attitudes policy's effectiveness and holding the Senior Leadership Team to account for its implementation.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The Senior Leadership Team is responsible for reviewing and approving this Behaviour and Attitudes Policy. The SLT will ensure that the school environment encourages and rewards positive behaviour and that trained staff deal effectively with poor behaviour, and will monitor how staff implement this policy to ensure rewards and sanctions are applied consistently.

Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Implementing the behaviour policy consistently and equitably
- Teaching and modelling positive behaviour and expectations
- Providing a personalised approach to the specific behavioural needs of particular students
- Recording behaviour incidents accurately

The Senior Leadership Team support staff in responding to behaviour incidents.

Role of Parents/Carers

On admission to school, parents/carers students and the Headteacher sign the Home School Agreement. This agreement clarifies the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders, and clarifies expectations.

Where breaches of the Behaviour and Attitudes Policy have occurred, the school will seek to involve parents and carers from the outset and will strive to provide them with accurate and timely information. Where there may have been a serious breach of the behaviour policy and it is necessary to interview a student, parents/carers will be contacted and offered the opportunity to attend the interview. In such situations, a written record of the interview will be taken and those present will be requested to sign. On other occasions, it may also be necessary and appropriate for parents/carers to attend a meeting in school concerning their child's behaviour.

Behaviour in the Wider Community

Students are ambassadors of the school and are expected to represent the school well when out in the community and show due regard for the school's neighbours. Under section 89 (5) of the Education and Inspections Act (2006), teachers, support staff and all persons acting on behalf of the Headteacher have a statutory power to discipline students for misbehaving away from the school premises.

The school reserves the right, therefore, to sanction a student for misbehaviour when:

- the student is taking part in any school related or organised activity
- the student is travelling to and from the school
- the student is wearing school uniform or can be identified as a student of the school
- misbehaviour that could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school
- misbehaviour poses a threat to other students or members of the public
- misbehaviour that adversely affects the reputation of the school
- misbehaviour that may take place online.

Students in Key Stage 3 and 4 are not allowed to leave the premises during the school day unless they have permission to do so. Students in the Sixth Form may leave the premises at lunch time providing they behave responsibly and sign out on departure and sign in on their return to school.

Confiscation Of and Search for Inappropriate Items

Under Section 90 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and Part 2 of the Education Act 2011, the school has the right to confiscate, retain or dispose of a student's property and protect the school from liability of damage. All procedures for searching, screening and confiscation will be fully compliant with the DfE guidance (Searching, Screening and Confiscation advice for schools 2022).

The school reserves the right to search without consent for prohibited items. These include: cigarettes, vapes, alcohol, illegal drugs, stolen items, weapons or any other item which the school considers to be harmful to a student or undermine the orderly running of the school. Sanctions will be imposed if a prohibited item is found, depending upon the decision of the Headteacher/ Deputy Headteacher. Refusal to comply with a search will be treated as a serious breach of this Policy.

Before screening or conducting a search of a student, the school will consider its obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights. Under Article 8, students have a right to respect for their private life. In this context, this means that students have the right to expect a reasonable level of personal privacy. The powers to search in the Education Act 1996 are compatible with Article 8. When exercising our powers lawfully, we should have no difficulty in demonstrating that we have acted in accordance with Article 8.

All searches will be conducted in the presence of two senior members of staff, one of whom will be the same sex as the student being searched. If possible, the witness will also be the same sex as the student. Where a student has been searched, their parents/carers will be informed. Where a member of staff finds an item which is banned under the school rules, they should take into account all relevant circumstances and use their professional judgement to decide whether to return it to its owner, retain it or dispose of it and inform relevant agencies such as the police or social care.

The member of staff conducting the search will not require the student to remove any clothing other than outer clothing. Outer clothing means clothing that is not worn next to the skin or immediately over a garment that is being worn as underwear but does include hats; shoes; boots; gloves and scarves.

The member of staff conducting the search can use reasonable force when conducting a search for knives, weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, stolen items, cigarettes, vapes, fireworks, pornographic images or articles that have been used to commit an offence or cause harm. Reasonable force will not be used to search for items banned under school rules.

Where any weapon or illegal drug is found on a student and this compromises the safety of students and or staff, this may result in the Headteacher imposing a permanent exclusion and the police will be informed (in accordance with DfE guidelines).

New psychoactive substances are banned in school and will be treated as illegal drugs.

The school reserves the right to search for, and remove from students, the following: e-cigarettes and vaping paraphernalia, and any other items which they believe may be sold for financial gain.

A strip search is a search involving the removal of more than the outer clothing. Strip searches on school premises can and will only be carried out by police officers under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) Code A. In the unlikely event that a strip search is required, guidance from Sefton Council will be consulted before calling police into school. Parents and carers will be informed in advance.

Smoking / Vaping

Any student caught smoking / vaping on the site or with smoking / vaping related paraphernalia they will be issued with a sanction and parents will be informed. This includes smoking outside the school grounds, or on the way to and from school. Subsequent offences will result in more serious sanctions being issued.

Theft and Vandalism

Theft of school property or wilful destruction to school property will not be tolerated and consequences will be imposed depending on the seriousness of the incident based upon the judgement of the school.

Student Support

The school recognises its legal duty under the Equality Act 2010 to prevent students with a protected characteristic from being at a disadvantage. Therefore, our approach to challenging behaviour may be adapted to cater to the needs of the student as appropriate.

The school's SENDCO will assess and evaluate a student who exhibits challenging behaviour to determine whether they have any underlying needs that are not currently being met.

Where necessary, support and advice may 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 student, we will liaise with external agencies and plan support programmes for that child. We will work with parents/guardians to create the plan that will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Positive Handling

DFE guidelines state that "All school staff members have a legal power to use reasonable force to prevent students committing a criminal offence, injuring themselves or others or damaging property and to maintain good order and discipline."

Teachers and support staff may use reasonable force in the aforementioned circumstances. The school does not require parental consent to use reasonable force. Further information is contained in the Positive Handling Policy.

Students with an Educational Health Care Plan

Students with an Educational Health Care Plan or with identified educational needs are expected to follow the school's Behaviour and Attitude policy and comply with all sanctions issued. Where behaviour places a student at risk of exclusion, all appropriate support agencies will be contacted and every reasonable step will be made to ensure the needs of the student are being supported and that 'reasonable adjustments' are set in place to support the student's needs. It may still, however, be appropriate to impose an exclusion following the implementation of reasonable adjustments.

Looked After Children

Looked After Children are expected to follow the school's Behaviour and Attitudes policy and comply with all sanctions issued. Where behaviour places a student at risk of exclusion, all appropriate support agencies will be contacted and every reasonable step will be made to ensure the needs of the student are being supported.

Loss of Personal Items on School Property

The school cannot take responsibility for any personal items lost within the grounds of the school property. This includes bicycles, electrical equipment, mobile phones, earpods, items of uniform (sporting and non-sporting) and money.

False Allegations against Members of Staff

Under the Education Act (2011), the school reserves the right to take disciplinary action against any student who, in the view of the Headteacher based on the evidence before them has made a serious, malicious allegation against a member of staff, which is unproven. This may result in exclusion from school.

Complaints

If a parent has a complaint about a disciplinary matter, they should follow the procedures laid down in the Trust's Complaints Policy.

Links with other policies

This behaviour policy is linked to the following policies:

- Anti-Bullying policy
- Rewards policy
- Safeguarding policy
- SEND policy
- Complaints policy